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FINAL REPORT

CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE

Jesse Salafia, Chairman

December 30, 1975

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123 Broad Street
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Preface

Members of the City School Field Committee have now prepared their Final Report for submission to City officials after many months of meetings and discussion. The committee is comprised of citizens of Middletown drawn from diverse areas and walks of life who share a common concern for providing sound recommendations, based on careful, deliberate findings.

Although we may have expressed differing views and ideas of what constitutes the best recreational use of City School Field, we have tried throughout our meetings to discharge our responsibilities and obligations with the best interests of the City in mind. To arrive at our conclusions, we have sought the input, ideas and opinions of residents from both the immediate neighborhood and the city-wide community, as well as from professional design and engineering consultants.

Operating under the provisions of the City's approved application to HUD, we have attempted to offer a practical approach for developing a comprehensive, flexible recreational facility for both neighborhood and City use. To this end, we advocate expert and long-term planning and consultation that allows for further developmental options and funding opportunities as required by expanding use of the facilities and changing demographic patterns and needs in the area.

The omnibus report offers both a summary of committee findings and recommendations and a series of attachments dealing with the varied business and reports of the committee's work plus representative news

accounts and consultant-related materials. The summary is substantially the same as the earlier interim report since the committee's findings remain substantially the same.

Further, recognizing differences of emphasis and opinion by members of the committee, we are providing a separate attachment containing statements by some of the members.

All recommendations made in this report have followed a parliamentary procedure of open discussion, motions and questions and decisions have been arrived at by unanimous agreement in nearly every case. We believe the committee not only has been diligent and conscientious in exercising its function but fair and equitable in responding to its members and to all those who have presented their views or recommendations to the group.

One recommendation of the report perhaps should be underscored, i.e., the recommendation to maintain this advisory body intact until the actual completion of the project. We believe this represents a real interest on the part of committee concerning its mission and its desire to see the project through final construction.

The committee further wishes to express its appreciation to William Kuehn, David Sparks and those municipal staff and employees who prepared reports, minutes and telephoned messages to committee members.

We now offer this Report to the Mayor and members of the Common Council of Middletown with the hope and expectation that they will study its

recommendations closely and act on them with all deliberate speed.

Jesse Salafia, Chairman
City School Field Committee

December 1975

INTRODUCTION

The City School Field Committee was appointed in June, 1975, by Mayor Lester Gowin, to investigate the best, possible use for the former Middletown High School athletic field and to submit a report and recommendations to the Common Council. An amount of \$44,000.00 has been appropriated by the city and the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the purpose of providing neighborhood park and recreation facilities for this area of Middletown, which, through redevelopment activities, is changing character. The shift of residential densities from the lower Union Street area to Traverse Square and the fact that the Otis Playground on Sumner Street will no longer be available as a recreational area, were felt by HUD to be significant factors in approving the City's proposal (see memo of 3/12/75 to MDC). The members of the committee are:

Jesse Salafia, Chairman, Arbutus Street, Middletown
Mary Klaaren, Secretary, 11 Summit Place, Middletown
Joseph Lombardo, 24 Arnold Street, Middletown
Mary Hilton, 36 Traverse Square, Middletown
Cari MacDermott, 47 Brainerd Avenue, Middletown
Seth Hubbard, 62 Acer Drive, Middletown
Marty Jaskot, 23 Hubbard Street, Middletown
Jack Kane, 70 Nathan Hale Road, Middletown

Two organizational meetings were held in June and the following meetings have been held approximately twice monthly.

The committee felt it was important to determine how the people living in the City School Field area felt the property should be developed. Consequently, a survey was conducted and one of two planned public hearings was held.

SUMMARY OF EXISTING PROPERTY

Before the second meeting of the committee was held, a site inspection was planned and carried out. City School Field is a 3.2 acre parcel located behind Stillman School on Loveland Street, formerly used for high school and community athletic events as evidenced by the remaining posts for bleachers, the cinder track, football field and the remains of two tennis courts. There is a swing set at the Stillman School entrance to the field. The two tennis courts are overgrown and unplayable and the area behind them completely overgrown and unuseable. The area behind the courts is fenced and has no entrance or right-of-way except through the tennis courts. The field seems to be in fairly useable condition though the track has fallen into disrepair.

INVESTIGATIONS

A site inspection was made by the committee members. The neighborhood survey was carried out and completed by members of the Youth Services Commission and a report of the results was drawn up and discussed by the committee at its August 12th meeting. There was general agreement with the survey's primary recommendations which were: 1) to provide neighborhood play facilities for young children; 2) to redevelop the tennis courts; 3) to provide basketball and other playground facilities suitable to older children (see copy of survey attached).

The committee also interviewed four consulting firms representing a broad range of staff size during September and October. They were: Raymond, Parish & Pine of Hamden, Connecticut; CMA Partnership of Avon, Connecticut; CE Maguire of New Britain, Connecticut; and CR-3

Associates of Avon, Connecticut.

On October 28th, the committee conducted a public hearing to elicit views from those who may have been missed by the survey team or who live in other parts of the city. The hearing was held at Stillman School adjacent to City School Field and about 30 to 40 individuals expressed their view that future development should be directed toward the maintaining or refurbishing City School Field with emphasis on team sports, though not to the exclusion of neighborhood play facilities (see attached transcript).

Letters were sent to all four consulting firms with an invitation to return to the committee with more detailed information on the possibilities for development of the field. CR-3 Associates, CE Maguire and CMA Partnership accepted the invitation and presented a little more detailed information to the committee.

Members of the committee were urged to visit sites nearby which have been designed by these firms in order to facilitate the final recommendation.

Seth Hubbard investigated and made a report to the committee on the cost and construction of the tennis courts at Middlesex Community College: four courts, \$9,500.00 exclusive of labor.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The committee recommends that a consulting firm be retained to assist in formulating a master plan and design for the future development

of City School Field. We understand that approximately \$4,000.00 or ten per cent of the budget is earmarked for professional (consulting) and technical services. The design would encompass both short and long-term projects providing a felxible basis for construction and funding options. Although available funding is for limited developmental possibilities, the creation of a long-range overview would allow for an orderly and progressive development of the entire site and for future funding proposals. At the December 2nd meeting, the committee decided by vote to narrow the choice of consultants to two firms; after evaluation of finished work or work in progress of these firms, the committee will make its final recommendation and pass it on the Mayor and Common Council.

A second public hearing is planned for the future following the development by the committee and consultant of a basic design concept. In this way, maximum input and participation can be assured in the final design approach.

In view of the project termination date of March 31, 1976, it is recommended that an early decision be made as to consultant selection and that plans and design be undertaken within the next sixty days, allowing time for review of any proposal and initiating actual construction and development during the spring and summer.

The committee requests further it be maintained as an advisory body until the project is completed.

As to general recommendations for development in addition to those offered separately, it is the committee's view that the general design for City School Field should retain the good features such as the field in an appropriate configuration suitable to an overall recreational facilityfor children and older persons. Good planning in the judgement of the committee would try to incorporate as many varied facilities as possible in a small area without destroying the natural terrain and existing facilities.

As to rehabilitation of the tennis courts site and facilities, the committee recommends major costs of development and renovation be assumed by City agencies and that the bulk of the grant funds be expended in developing a neighborhood park and recreational facility.

INTERIM REPORT
CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE

SCOPE OF STUDY - The City School Field Committee was appointed in June, 1975, by Mayor Lester Gowin to investigate the best possible use for the former Middletown High School athletic field and to submit a report and recommendations to the Common Council. A budget of \$44,000.00 has been granted to the city by the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the purpose of providing neighborhood park facilities for this area of Middletown, which through redevelopment activities, is changing character. The shift of residential densities from the lower Union Street area to Traverse Square and the fact that the Otis Playground on Sumner Street will no longer be available as a recreational area, were felt by HUD to be significant factors in granting the funds. The members of the committee are:

Jesse Salafia - Chairman
Mary Klaaren - Secretary
Joseph Lombardo
Mary Hilton
Cari MacDermott
Seth Hubbard
Marty Jaskot
Jack Kane

Two organizational meetings were held in June at which time the following decisions were reached:

1. The chairman and secretary were unanimously elected.
2. It was agreed the chairman would serve as spokesman for the press and would be authorized only to report on what had happened at the meetings and commonly agreed upon.
3. A site inspection was planned and carried out.

4. The committee felt it was important to determine how the people living in the City School Field area felt the property should be developed. A draft of a questionnaire was presented.

5. It was decided to investigate the possibility of using Youth Services volunteers to conduct a neighborhood survey, using a form of the questionnaire. A report of the results would be written and distributed to committee members.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION - A 3.2 acre parcel located behind Stillman School on Loveland Street, formerly used for high school and community athletic events as evidenced by the remaining posts for bleachers, the cinder track, football field and the remains of two tennis courts. There is a swing set at the Stillman School entrance to the field. The two tennis courts are overgrown and unplayable and the area behind them completely overgrown and unusable. The field and track seem to be in fairly usable condition.

INVESTIGATIONS - The neighborhood survey was carried out and completed by members of the Youth Services Commission and a report of the results was drawn up and discussed by the committee at its August 12th meeting. There was general agreement with the survey's primary recommendations which were: 1) to provide neighborhood play facilities for young children; 2) to redevelop the tennis courts; 3) to provide basketball and other playground facilities suitable to older children.

The committee also interviewed four consulting firms representing a broad range of staff size during September and October. They were: Raymond, Parish & Pine of Hamden, Connecticut, CMA Partnership of Avon,

Connecticut, CE Maguire and CR-3 Associates.

On October 28th, the committee conducted a public hearing to elicit views from those who may have been missed by the survey team or who live in other parts of the city. The hearing was held at Stillman School adjacent to City School Field and about 30 to 40 individuals expressed their view that future development should be directed toward the maintaining or refurbishing City School Field with emphasis on team sports, though not to the exclusion of neighborhood play facilities.

RECOMMENDATIONS - Following further discussion, the committee is forwarding this report with these recommendations:

1. Engage a consulting firm to assist in formulating a master plan and design for the future development of City School Field. The design would encompass both short and long-term projects providing a flexible basis for construction and funding options. Although available funding is for limited developmental possibilities, the creation of a long-range overview would allow for an orderly and progressive development of the entire site and for future grant applications to HUD. Funds in the current grant have been earmarked for professional and technical services.
2. In view of the project termination date of March 31, 1976, it is recommended that an early decision be made as to consultant selection and that plans and design be undertaken within the next sixty days, allowing time for review of any proposal and initiating actual construction and development during the spring and summer.
3. The committee requests further it be maintained as an advisory body until the project is completed.
4. A comprehensive report is anticipated before the end of the year.

SUMMARY: NEIGHBORHOOD SURVEY ON CITY SCHOOL FIELD

Prepared for: City School Field Study Committee

Prepared by: D.G. Sparks, Municipal Development Committee

Survey Team: Francine Faraci, Susan Vereen, Vincent Annino

Date: Wednesday, Friday, July 16th and July 18th, 1975

Area Surveyed: Neighborhood of City School Field including Church Street (between High and Hubbard Streets), William Street, Traverse Square, Oak Street, Loveland Street, Hotchkiss Street, Hubbard Street, Huber Manor, Mansfield Terrace, Warwick Street, South High Street and South Main Street (in immediate area), Lawn Avenue, Brainerd Avenue and Home Avenue.

Most heavily sampled areas: Oak Street and Traverse Square where largest cluster of homes and greatest number of people at home during interviewing hours. Residents in both areas responded, cooperating and, in general, enthusiastically to questions about improving City School Field.

Survey Analysis: Using the attached six-point questionnaire, the survey team contacted residents on a house-to-house basis in the neighborhood surrounding City School Field (adjacent to Stillman School). Nearly 200 households were contacted with over 100 interviews conducted, representing over 350 persons in those households. There was no access to the remaining households - no one being available at the time of contact (vacation and job schedules being the most obvious reasons

for lack of access). For a better sample, a personal type survey would have to be carried out at different times of day and year. The demographic spread in interviews conducted represents a good cross-section of the City's make-up in economic, social and ethnic terms. Ages of respondents ranged from young to elderly; middle-aged and young-marrieds. Families with small and young children, as well as older one-couple families or those living alone constituted household members contacted.

Interest in possible new development at City School Field was very high, particularly among those families with children or grandchildren. Respondents indicated a lively concern about the future of the Field and readily offered opinions as to possible development, uses and facility improvements. Seventy-five (75%) per cent of those interviewed registered an interest in using City School Field if facilities were improved and developed there. At present, only twenty-five (25%) per cent of the houses visited indicated any current use of City School Field by members of the household. In most instances, the youngsters go there to play together and use limited equipment at Stillman School.

Preferences For Development

In summary, the most expressed need was for better facilities for the very young, a "tot-lot" play area, including such facilities as a wading pool, sandboxes, swings, slides, etc. Particularly strong support for "tot-lot" facilities came from residents of Traverse Square (lower-income housing development), where there is evidence of overcrowded and limited recreational facilities for small children.

Nearly half of all households indicated a preference for such "tot-lot"

facilities, reflecting the general concern that children in the neighborhood were limited in immediate recreational activities, especially during vacation periods and, by the fact many families did not have transportation to take advantage of other municipal recreational areas.

Ranked equally among those responding were the idea of playgrounds for older children (elementary school age levels) and the desire for reconstruction of tennis courts which have completely deteriorated during the past ten years. A vote for tennis came from both Traverse Square and other neighborhood residents. Construction of a basketball court (one basket and backboard) was the next most popular idea. Actual rankings were: 1) Tot-lot playground; 2) Tennis courts; 3) Better playground for older children; 4) Basketball court; 5) Other possibilities; 6) Increased play area for Stillman School; 7) Horsehoe pits; 8) Shuffleboard.

Open Field Play and Organized Athletic Events

Although ranking their preferences for: 1) Tot-lot playground; 2) Tennis courts; 3) Better playground for older children; 4) Basketball court, etc. in that order, half of those interviewed also were in favor of open field play if it did not interfere with younger children's activities and if problems related to noise and parking congestion could be worked out. Many did volunteer that the cost of constructing new bleachers would have to be weighed against money available for other development

and would appear to have very low priority in development plans and costs.

Survey Team Reactions

Survey team members were asked to summarize their own views on the survey and the results. Here are their views as registered shortly after completing their interviews:

"The results of the City School Field Survey are as follows: Most people with young children, and even some older people, would like to see a "tot-lot" playground for little children, the reason being that it would give their children a place to go and keep them off the streets.

However, I also found that the majority of older people, or young teenagers, would like to see tennis courts and basketball, as well.

The items list as follows: 1) Tot-lot, 16; 2) Playground for older children, 10; 3) Basketball, 6; 4) Horseshoe, 2; 5) Shuffleboard, 1; 6) Tennis courts, 11; 7) Increased play at Stillman School, 7; 8) Other, 2, made into offices, knocked down entirely.

Several of the older people had no opinion at all.

Personally, I feel that Stillman Field or City School Field, should be made into something useful for people. It would be a shame for it to be knocked down and just left empty.

Most people, I think, feel the same. Most everyone was cooperative in doing the survey, seeing as though it was "short and sweet". By that, I mean it wasn't long and dragged out. It was quick and to the point".

The results of the survey for the City School Field is that most people feel that there should be a tot-lot playground. Secondly, was a play-

ground for older children. Also, that a lot of people use City School Field.

I think that the survey was excellent except for I didn't really care for going to the people's houses, even tho the survey was for a good reason. I really think that instead of going around in a specific area that maybe they should put people in some of the stores. Another idea is that maybe when the people go to vote, there should be some forms there in case that would like to do the survey instead of maybe bothering them.

Results: Tot-lot playground, 12; Better playground for older children, 11; Basketball court, 8; Horseshoe pits, 3; Shuffleboard, 4; Tennis courts, improved, 5; Increased play area for Stillman School, 6".

"The results of the survey taken on behalf of the City School Field were as follows: 1) Most of the people want tennis courts that will be improved and be in good shape. 2) Next, the people want to see a tot-lot playground be put in. 3) Then, the people want a better playground for older children.

The actual results: 1) Tot-lot playground, 17 people; 2) Better playground for older children, 13; 3) Basketball court, 12; 4) Horseshoe pits, 11; 5) Shuffleboard, 11; 6) Tennis courts, 21.

In my opinion, most people do not use the City School Field in its present conditon. But, if it is developed into a neighborhood park, a lot of people would go to it. Most people feel that the development would keep more kids off the streets so, in that respect, the development would be good. The kids would have some nice place to play and the adults would like tp play a little tennis on the side".

Further follow-up is planned in form of providing questionnaires to a representative number of those households we were unable to reach during the daytime interviews. Also, posters are being placed in neighborhood stores with questionnaires inviting local residents to offer ideas and give opinions.

City School Field is presently used irregularly by neighborhood children and some adults and older children. Improvements, obviously, would be welcome and would generate increased use, benefit and enjoyment.

The survey team is available for further discussion and comment should the Study Committee so request.

DRAFT

INTERVIEWER'S NAME _____ DATE _____ NO. _____

QUESTIONNAIRE - 5 mins. or less

DEVELOPMENT OF CITY SCHOOL FIELD

NAME (if offered) _____ No. in Household _____

ADDRESS _____

We are making a survey for the City of Middletown to find out what people would like to see done at City School Field. Although we have a limited budget, we want to know what people in the general neighborhood think about possible development, particularly as a park for individuals of all ages.

- 1.) Do you, or members of your family, ever go to, or use, City School Field? Yes _____ No _____ Sometimes _____
- 2.) Would you, or your family, use it as a neighborhood park if it were improved or developed? Yes _____ No _____ Sometimes _____
- 3.) Among the possibilities are:
 - 1) Tot-lot playground (wading pool, sandboxes, swings, slides, benches for mothers and others.
 - 2) Better playground for older children.
 - 3) Basketball court (1/2).
 - 4) Horseshoe pits.
 - 5) Shuffleboard.
 - 6) Tennis courts - improved.
 - 7) Increased play area for Stillman School.
 - 8) Other possibilities.

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4.) State or rank your personal preferences -

1) _____

2) _____

5.) In your opinion, should open field play and organized sports such as soccer, football, lacrosse, track, be continued or permitted?

Yes _____ No _____

6.) What City recreational facilities do you or members of your household use? _____

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: MAYOR ANTHONY SBOA
MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

FROM: W. KUEHN

DATE: MARCH 12, 1975

SUBJECT: CITY SCHOOL FIELD

In January, 1973, the Department of Housing and Urban Development authorized that \$255,000.00 (half Federal and half City) be spent to accomplish three tasks - the acquisition of the Hubbard estate, the acquisition of additional land at Westfield Falls and the conversion of City School Field. The first objective has been completed; the second is in condemnation; and the third is about to begin as I'll describe later on.

The budget which HUD has approved is severely restrictive in several areas and hence, I have written a letter to HUD requesting an amendment to the budget wherein amounts are interchanged between line items. The existing and proposed budgets for this project are as follows:

	<u>Existing</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Site Acquisition	\$225,234	\$205,234
Constr./proj. improvements	25,000	42,000
Prof./tech. services	2,000	6,000
Inspection fee	<u>1,766</u>	<u>1,766</u>
Total	\$255,000*	\$255,000

*The sum of the parts in the HUD approved budget do not equal \$255,000.00.

The reasons for considering an amendment to the budget are as follows: the acquisition of the Hubbard tract (\$173,000) and the Westfield Falls expansion (highest appraisal \$27,000) should not exceed \$205,000.00; professional and technical services already approach \$3,000.00; therefore, condemnation proceedings plus the retention of a landscape architect will require an additional appropriation; and \$25,000.00 is a rather restricting figure in terms of designing the conversion of City School Field.

Similar to my approach with the MacDonough School PTO, I met with the Stillman PTO on Wednesday, February 26th, at the Traverse Square Community Center. Present were thirteen members of the

PTO plus the school principal and several faculty members. After briefly outlining the intent and scope of the project, I invited comments which could be built into the design of the proposed facility. Those comments include: additional play area for school recess periods, additional tot-lot facilities, a wading pool, a sitting area for mothers, perhaps with benches under trees, a large sandbox bordered by benches and fenced in, swings, slides, the rehabilitation of the tennis courts, horseshoe pits or other activities which would encourage adults or elderly persons to make use of the facilities, a "junk" playground utilizing old tires, barrels, cars, rowboats (an article appeared in the Sunday Courant of March 9th which encouraged this kind of design), poured concrete objects with tunnels such as large pipes or structures with holes in the sides for climbing, and utilizing the hillside for a slide. Other comments included the removal of all concrete piers formerly used for the bleachers, the retention of the track for joggers and bicycles at a reduced scale, elimination of football activities and the use of landscape materials for separating major areas of activity.

Assuming that the Department of Housing and Urban Development will permit an amendment to the budget as proposed above, I feel the best route to proceed would be to again retain a landscape architect to work out the design and specifications for the project. If the Municipal Development Committee is in agreement with this approach, I would like to have a handle on professional services within the next month. I am not sold on any one individual to do the work except to say I am satisfied with the work Mr. Gary has done on the MacDonough School project. If anyone else has a name, or names, they feel should be contacted with regard to this project, I would appreciate hearing of them.

WMK/th

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: MAYOR ANTHONY SBONA
FROM: W. KUEHN
DATE: MARCH 21, 1975
SUBJECT: CITY SCHOOL FIELD

The Municipal Development Committee has recommended that a "building committee approach" be taken with regard to the design of City School Field to an urban park. The Committee recommended that an appropriate resolution be prepared for the April 7th Common Council meeting to establish such a committee with the hopes that such a committee could be made shortly thereafter.

I suspect that MDC felt there was too much hassling back and forth during the MacDonough design phase and that a building committee approach could eliminate some of these problems.

WMK/th

MEMORANDUM

TO: MAYOR LESTER H. GOWIN
CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE

FROM: W. KUEHN

DATE: JUNE 3, 1975

SUBJECT: INITIAL MEETING

Please be advised that the initial meeting of the above-referenced committee will be held next Tuesday, June 10th, at 7:30 P.M. in the Municipal Development office (Mayor's office) in the Municipal Building.

Background

In January, 1973, the Department of Housing and Urban Development authorized that \$255,000.00 (half Federal and half City) be spent to accomplish three tasks - the acquisition of the Hubbard Estate adjacent to Spencer School; the acquisition of additional land at Westfield Falls; and the conversion of City School Field. The first objective was completed through negotiation; the second by condemnation; and the third remains to be done.

The basis for HUD's granting money for converting City School Field was primarily to provide neighborhood playground facilities for an area of the community which, through redevelopment activities, is changing character. Specifically, the construction of new housing facilities at Traverse Square and the Wesleyan Apartments have introduced different age groups to this section of Middletown, for which recreational areas are lacking. In addition, the Otis Playground on Sumner Street is being purchased by the Redevelopment Agency and will be incorporated into a larger disposition parcel for commercial development. The shift of residential densities from the lower Union Street area toward Traverse Square was felt by HUD to be a significant factor in requiring proper recreational space.

In March of this year, a request for a budget revision was made to allow more money for the actual conversion of the facility. On April 21, 1975, HUD authorized an increase from \$25,000.00 to \$40,000.00 for construction and site improvements. At the same time, they also authorized for up to approximately \$4,000.00 for professional and technical services, i.e., design. Hence, for all practical purposes, the committee has a budget of \$44,000.00 with which to operate.

MMK/th

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: MAYOR LESTER M. GOWIN
CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE

FROM: W. KUEHN

DATE: JUNE 13, 1975

SUBJECT: SITE INSPECTION

PLEASE BE REMINDED that there will be a site inspection on Thursday, June 19th, at 6:30 P.M. at City School Field (Hotchkiss Street entrance).

Enclosed please find an inventory of municipal recreation facilities which was developed for the City School Field application and updated to 1975.

At the first meeting, it was suggested that the committee begin thinking about some organizational structure i.e., chairman and secretary.

WMK/th
Enc.

Table No. 2
INVENTORY OF MUNICIPAL RECREATION FACILITIES

Facility	Acreage	% Developed	Major Features &/or Activity	Primary Use
AREA WIDE				
1 Veterans Memorial Park	39	95	.swimming pool .basketball courts .ice skating .picnicking .archery range .horseshoes .zoo .tennis courts .bocci courts .snow sliding .hiking	Recreation
2 Palmer Field	9	90	.baseball field .softball field .soccer field	Recreation
3 Hubbard Park	5	100	.baseball field .softball field .spectator facilities	Recreation
4 River Front Park	5.5	20	.walking areas .sitting areas .boat launching	Urban Design
5 Pikes Ravine	19	100	.nature study .hiking .ice skating	Conservation
6 Pameacha Pond	23.5	0		Urban Design

Facility	Acreage	% Developed	Major Features &/or Activity	Primary Use
7 Crystal Lake	33	50	.proposed golf course .swimming .picnic facili- ties .field sports	Recreation
8 Pat Kidney Field	14.6	100	.softball field .baseball field .soccer .football .track .tennis	Recreation
9 Newfield Meadows	144.6	0		Urban Design
<u>NEIGHBORHOOD</u>				
10 Union Square	1.3	100	.sitting .viewing	Urban Design
11 Washington Green	3.3	100	.sitting .viewing	Urban Design
12 Butternut Hollow	10.0	0	.play apparatus .viewing	Recreation
13 Roosevelt Field	3.0	20	.play apparatus	Recreation
14 Otis Play- ground	2	100	.basketball .play appa- ratus .turf field	Recreation
15 North End Memorial Playground	(See #32 Commodore MacDonough School)			

Facility	Acreage	% Developed	Major Features &/or Activity	Primary Use
16 City School Field	3	0	To Be Determined	Recreation
17 Dennison Road Park	3	0		Urban Design
18 Spencer School	7.3	30	.play apparatus .softball field	Recreation
19 Hubbard School	1	100	.play apparatus .softball .basketball	Recreation
20 Eckersley Hall School	.5	100	.play apparatus .basketball court	Recreation
21 Bielefield School	4.6	50	.play apparatus .turf field .basketball court	Recreation
22 Westfield School	1.0	100	.play apparatus .turf field .basketball court	Recreation
23 Staddle Hill Playground	1.0	100	.play apparatus .turf field	Recreation
24 Long Hill School	4.3	15	.play apparatus .basketball court	Recreation
25 Farm Hill School	2	20	.play apparatus .turf field	Recreation

Facility	Acreage	% Developed	Major Features &/or Activity	Primary Use
26 Van Buren Moody School	42.3	6	.basketball court .softball fields .baseball field .football field .apparatus	Recreation
27 St. Sebastian School Area	.15	100	.play apparatus .basketball	Recreation
28 Snow School	16.7	50	.baseball field .football .play apparatus	Recreation
29 Central School	.6	100	.basketball court .turf field	Recreation
30 Middletown High School	0	-		
31 Stillman School	.1	-		
32 Commodore MacDonough School	4+	50	.play apparatus .turf field .basketball court .horseshoe courts .tennis court	Recreation
33 Woodrow Wilson H.S.	4.6	100	.basketball .turf field	Recreation
34 Woodrow Wilson Jr. High School	4.5	100	.basketball .turf field	Recreation

Facility	Acreage	% Developed	Major Features &/or Activity	Primary Use
35 Vocational Agricultural School	1	100	.turf field	Recreation
36 Zoar Pond	30.2	-	.viewing	Conservation
37 Westfield Falls	5.5	- 0 -	.viewing	Conservation
38 Kennedy Tract	50	- 0 -	.viewing	Conservation
39 Hubbard Estate	22.8	- 0 -		Recreation
40 Spear Park	1+	100%	.viewing .sitting areas .fountain	Urban design
41 Olin Ski Park		100%	.sitting areas .viewing	Conservation
42 McCutcheon Tract	30	- 0 -	.viewing .wildlife sanctuary	Conservation
43 Ferry Street tot-lot	.5+	100%	.play apparatus	Recreation

CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE

MINUTES

June 23, 1975

PRESENT

J. Salafia
J. Lombardo
Mrs. William MacDermott
Mrs. Eugene Klaaren

ALSO PRESENT

D. Sparks
W. Kuehn

ABSENT

S. Hubbard
M. Jaskot
Ms. Mary Hilton

The City School Field Committee convened at 7:42 P.M. in Room 206 of the Municipal Building.

In organizing itself, the committee unanimously selected Jesse Salafia as chairman and Mary Klaaren as secretary.

It was decided that a quorum could be established with the presence of four (4) members of the committee; meeting dates would be the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 P.M.

Notices of the meeting time and date would be sent out along with the minutes of the previous meeting to the members and, on the meeting day, each member will be telephoned as a reminder.

As regards to the matter of future news releases, it was agreed that the chairman would serve as the spokesman for the press and media and it was further agreed that he would be authorized only to report on what had happened at the meeting and commonly agreed upon.

A draft of a questionnaire to be used as a survey instrument in the City School Field neighborhood to determine their views in development possibilities was introduced and distributed to members who were present. A brief description of the contents of this questionnaire, its rationale and methodology followed. Members were to review the questionnaire, making any additions, revisions or comments that they determine necessary prior to the next meeting (a copy of the draft version is enclosed for members not present).

Discussions have been held with Youth Services to determine possible availability of interviewers to conduct the neighborhood survey.

Discussions about the purpose and function of the committee concluded with the expressed desire of the chairman and members to review previous documents related to the City School Field development application (copies enclosed).

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE

MINUTES

July 1, 1975

PRESENT

J. Salafia, Chairman
Mrs. M. Klaaren, Secretary
J. Lombardo
M. Jaskot
Ms. Mary Hilton

ALSO PRESENT

P. Caprilloglio, N. Times
D. Sparks

ABSENT

Mrs. W. MacDermott
S. Hubbard

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. in Room 203 of the Municipal Building. He briefly discussed procedural rules for the committee related to freedom of information.

The draft of the questionnaire was evaluated and suggestions made for inclusion in the final version. It was agreed that Youth Services should be informed of the committee's decision to conduct the survey in the neighborhood of the City School Field in order to determine their views of potential uses and development for the park facility.

It was agreed that a survey team should consist of young people who are reliable and capable of conducting brief interviews, using the questionnaire. This team of probably three or four would be selected by the director of Youth Services and the survey carried out as soon as convenient. The possibility of meeting with the survey team by the committee was also raised and, if possible, will be arranged.

After completing the survey, compiling results and preparing preliminary reports to the Mayor and Council, the committee might then consider the possibility of outside consultants for further determination of plans for development of City School Field.

The Chairman again reiterated the need to restrain any publicity regarding City School Field until the committee has an opportunity to prepare its own report.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

David G. Sparks

DGS/th

CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE

MINUTES

July 15, 1975

PRESENT

J. Salafia, Chairman
M. Jaskot
J. Lombardo
S. Hubbard
J. Kane

ALSO PRESENT

D. Sparks
S. Vereen
F. Faraci
V. Annino

ABSENT

M. Hilton
M. Klaaren
M. MacDermott

Before the meeting was called to order, committee was introduced to Survey Team (S. Vereen, F. Faraci, V. Annino) and informed of committee's interest in surveying neighborhood and obtaining representative attitudes regarding development possibilities for City School Field.

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M. The minutes of July 1, 1975, were approved as read. New member, Jack Kane, welcomed by the Chairman.

S. Hubbard requested a list of committee members, names and telephone numbers.

Several streets were suggested and added to survey list. Survey was explained to committee members, concept behind questions and basic methodology.

Discussion of need for expansion of water and sanitary facilities when area is developed.

J. Lombardo submitted copies of a petition to the Chairman that apparently originated by someone interested in preserving City School Field for organized soccer and football. The Chairman reminded all of the focus of the committee - to make recommendations to the Mayor and Common Council regarding uses and possible development of City School Field without any particular bias and suggested that future petitions be curtailed until committee has completed its work, including survey of general neighborhood.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

DGS/th

CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE

MINUTES

August 12, 1975

PRESENT

J. Salafia, Chairman
M. Klaaren
C. MacDermott
M. Hilton
J. Kane
S. Hubbard

ALSO PRESENT

D. Sparks
P. Caprioglio, H. Times

ABSENT

J. Lombardo
M. Jaskot

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M. The minutes of July 15, 1975, were approved as read.

The Committee began a discussion of the City School Field Survey report. General agreement with the survey's chief recommendation to develop a neighborhood facility with "tot-lot" facilities, tennis courts, basketball court and playground facilities for older children.

Committee revised conclusion of report dealing with "open-field" sports to more precisely reflect the views of respondents. Original statement offered gross description of views favoring opposition to team sports play at City School Field.

Committee indicated a favorable disposition to obtaining consultants presentation and public hearing to permit those whose views may have been missed by survey team and views of citizens in other parts of the City.

Committee voted to table survey report to permit further study for a vote at next meeting.

Petitions presented by J. Lombardo were also discussed and duly noted.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 26th, at 7:30 P.M. in Room 203 of the Municipal Building.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

DGS/th

CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE

MINUTES

August 26, 1975

PRESENT

J. Salafia, Chairman
J. Lombardo
Ms. M. Hilton
J. Kane

ALSO PRESENT

C. Judge, Press
W. Kuehn

ABSENT

Mrs. W. MacDermott
S. Hubbard
Mrs. E. Klaaren
M. Jaskot

The meeting was called to order at 7:50 P.M. in Room 203 of the Municipal Building. Upon a motion by J. Kane, seconded by J. Lombardo, the minutes of August 12, 1975, were approved.

Upon a motion by J. Kane, seconded by M. Hilton, the results of the Committee-sponsored survey were incorporated into the records of the Committee, J. Lombardo dissenting.

The Committee discussed the conduct of a public hearing to be held prior to understanding the physical design of the Field.

The Committee decided to interview approximately four (4) consulting firms, representing a broad range of staff size. These interviews will be held on an unspecified night during the second week of September and/or the third Tuesday of the month.

The Committee recognized receiving information from the Planning and Zoning staff.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

WMK/th

Note: The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, September 9th, 1975, at 7:30 P.M. in Room 206 of the Municipal Building.

MEMORANDUM

TO: MAYOR LESTER M. GOWIN
CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE

FROM: D. SPARKS

DATE: SEPTEMBER 4, 1975

We expect to have representatives of consulting firms at the next meeting for purposes of interviews with the Committee. We are allowing approximately thirty to forty minutes for the interview and would like to provide time, both for a brief presentation by the consultant and questions by the Committee.

Some of the typical concerns are listed here which we are asking the consultants to address themselves to; additionally, you may have other important questions.

If your questions don't get answered in the meeting, due to time limits or whatever, we could always give or send them to the consultant for reply, in writing.

Some typical concerns:

Costs; time required to do job; performance standards and scheduling.

Examples of similar developments; past experience; size of firm and basic philosophy on recreational facilities; person in firm as contact.

Technical capabilities represented in firm, i.e., architects, engineering, etc.

Does budget represent a strong restraint for imaginative development?

Familiarity with parks, playgrounds, recreational facility development.

Technical or other assistance that may be required by the consultant from the City.

DGS/th

CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE

MINUTES

September 9, 1975

PRESENT

J. Salafia, Chairman
Mrs. M. Klaaren
Mrs. K. MacDermott
Ms. M. Hilton
S. Hubbard
J. Lombardo

ALSO PRESENT

C. Caprioglio, H. Times
R. Pine
J. Gibbons
T. Maroney
D. Sparks

ABSENT

J. Kane
M. Jaskot

The meeting convened at 7:30 P.M.

First consultants from Raymond, Parish & Pine, Hamden, Connecticut, made a presentation to the committee. Examples of other landscape architecture and recreational designs were displayed in the form of sketches, drawings and plans.

They recommended stage development of City School Field in light of limited budget; stressed need for landscape work and emphasis on site; indicated cost of services and general approach to the type of development.

Following a question period, another set of consultant representatives from CMA Partnership, Avon, Connecticut, made their presentation to the committee. First they presented slides of previous landscape and recreational facilities done by their firm and provided a graphic display of the communications process they prefer to pursue with a client. Included in their prior experiences were recently completed athletic facilities at Hall High School in West Hartford, including track design. They, also, recommended staged development for City School Field. After a brief question and answer period, the committee held a brief business meeting, including approving the minutes of the August 26th meeting.

A motion was offered by S. Hubbard, seconded by J. Lombardo, to determine the costs of renovating the tennis court area at City School Field. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that the committee would interview two more consulting firms and then try to assess the information received.

The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, September 23rd, at 7:30 P.M. in Room 203 of the Municipal Building.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

DGS/th

CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE

MINUTES

October 21, 1975

PRESENT

J. Salafia, Chairman
K. MacDermott
M. Jaskot
J. Lombardo
S. Hubbard
J. Kane

ALSO PRESENT

D. Sparks
W. Kuehn

ABSENT

M. Klaaren
M. Hilton

The meeting convened at 7:30 P.M.

Committee briefly discussed recent interviews with various landscape architecture consulting firms.

Plans were laid to conduct a public hearing for purposes of inviting public input on the matter of development of recreational facilities at City School Field. The date of the hearing will be Tuesday, October 28th, at 7:30 P.M.

A subcommittee was appointed to prepare preliminary (interim report) to the Council on the Committee's basic findings, deliberations and recommendations. Report Committee members: Mary Klaaren, Kerry MacDermott, Seth Hubbard, Jack Kane, under the aegis of Chairman Jesse Salafia. Committee members invited to participate in drafting report but declining because of other commitments: M. Jaskot, J. Lombardo; Seth Hubbard indicated limited time available.

Motion made by S. Hubbard, seconded by M. Jaskot, voted unanimously, to invite consultants to make additional presentations of their views and ideas by November 18th meeting.

Seth Hubbard indicated verbal discussions with Park and Recreation Department revealed tennis courts at City School Field could be rehabilitated for limited investment. Mr. Hubbard has agreed to provide committee with cost breakdown at next meeting.

There being no further business, the Committee was adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

DGS/th

NEXT MEETING - PUBLIC HEARING - Tuesday, October 28th, 7:30 P.M.
at Stillman School

MEMORANDUM

TO: MAYOR LESTER M. GOWIN
CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE

FROM: D. SPARKS

DATE: NOVEMBER 5, 1975

A draft of the interim report on City School Field is enclosed for your consideration and review. It has already been approved by the chairman and will be submitted to all Common Council members within the next week.

A copy of the survey questionnaire and the survey report will be sent to Council members also.

A short meeting is planned for Wednesday, November 12th, at 7:15 P.M. in Room 206 of the Municipal Building to consider recommendations in the interim report.

A letter of invitation has been sent to the consulting firms who made presentations to the committee, offering them time on Tuesday, November 18th, to present any additional ideas or proposals.

Thank you for your prompt attention.

DGS/th
Encs.

CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE

MINUTES

November 12, 1975

PRESENT

J. Salafia
M. Klaazen
C. MacDermott
M. Jaskot
S. Hubbard
J. Lombardo

ALSO PRESENT

J. Daley
D. Sparks

ABSENT

J. Kane
M. Hilton

The meeting was convened by the Chairman at 7:15 P.M. with brief discussions of the following matters:

Plans for the next meeting when representatives from CE Maguire and CMA Partnership will make additional presentations. It was noted that Raymond, Parish & Pine had submitted a letter indicating its continuing interest in being considered as a consultant though declining an invitation to make a second appearance since they felt they had nothing substantive to add to the initial presentation.

Seth Hubbard indicated he had received cost estimates on tennis court development and preferred discussing this with the committee at the next meeting.

The Chairman, with the unanimous consent and approval of the attending committee members, announced that the Interim Report previously drafted would be submitted in its present form to the Mayor and Common Council for their consideration.

Jeffrey Gebrian of CR3 made another presentation to the committee and offered a copy of his basic proposal which each member received at the time of the meeting. Absentees will receive a copy at the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

DGS/th

TO: CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE
FROM: JESSE SALAFIA, CHAIRMAN
SUBJECT: MEETING DATE - TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1975
DATE: NOVEMBER 26, 1975

A MEETING OF THE CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD ON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1975 AT 7:30 P.M. IN ROOM 206 (SECOND
FLOOR) OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING.

BASIC BUSINESS OF THE MEETING IS SELECTION OF CONSULTANT FROM
THOSE WHO MADE PRESENTATIONS: CMA PARTNERSHIP, CR3, RAYMOND,
PARISH & PINE, AND C.E. MAGUIRE.

PLEASE PLAN TO MAKE RECOMMENDATION ON TUESDAY.

ALSO REPORT SUBCOMMITTEE SHOULD BEGIN PREPARING FINAL REPORT.
WILL DISCUSS DETAILS.


JESSE SALAFIA

pc

CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE

December 2, 1975

MINUTES

PRESENT

J. Salafia, Chairman
C. MacDermott
M. Hilton
M. Jaskot
S. Hubbard
J. Lombardo

ALSO PRESENT

D. Sparks
G. Daley

ABSENT

M. Klaaren
J. Kane

The meeting was convened at 7:30 P.M. Reading of minutes of prior meeting was waived.

The Chairman discussed preparation of final report. C. MacDermott was chosen chairman of the Final Report Committee, supported by other members of Interim Report Committee. Target date for draft, approximately December 15th.

Selection of a consultant, to be recommended in the final report, comprised the bulk of the discussions. Decision was made to evaluate actual recreational work of two consultants: CR3 and CE Maguire. It is hoped that committee members will be able to observe such facilities within the next two weeks.

S. Hubbard provided basic costs of construction of the tennis courts at Middlesex Community College.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, December 15th, 1975, at 7:30 P.M. in Room 206.

DGS/th

CITY SCHOOL FIELD COMMITTEE

MINUTES

December 15, 1975

PRESENT

J. Salafia, Chairman
J. Lombardo
Mrs. W. MacDermott
Mrs. E. Klaaren
S. Hubbard
M. Jaskot

ALSO PRESENT

G. Daley
D. Sparks

ABSENT

M. Milton
J. Kane

The meeting was convened at 7:30 P.M.

Minutes of prior meeting were read and approved.

Primary business included: Discussion of draft of Final Report. The Chairman indicated to committee members that each member would receive a draft version and should review it prior to preparation of the final version. Committee members submitted separate statements regarding personal recommendations for City School Field.

Martin Jaskot and Joseph Lombardo volunteered to inspect site work of consultants under consideration. Others were urged to try to visit projects for work in progress.

There was a brief discussion concerning costs of tennis courts with recommendation that rehabilitation and further development of City School Field tennis facilities be undertaken by City agencies.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

DGS/th

TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC HEARING, STILLMAN SCHOOL - OCTOBER 28, 1975

J. Salafia - We are a committee, only to make recommendations to the Mayor and Council and have no authority as to disposition of field. We will make a report to the Mayor, who, in turn will meet with Common Council and it will be their decision as to the fate of the field. By the authority given to us by the Mayor, we are working within the Federal guidelines of the grant of \$44,000.00 so that there will be no unappropriated expenditure of City funds. We have taken surveys, have input as far as some of the people in the area would like done. You may look at a map of the field in order to give you a better idea of its layout. There will be no debate. If anyone wishes to speak on their feeling about the field, please stand, give your name and address.

B. O'Rourke - My name is Bernie O'Rourke, I live at 169 College Street. I'm a taxpayer and I'm also Director of Parks and Recreation Department. I have a written sheet which I would like to read but I'd like to digress just for a moment before I do. At the present time, City School Field is under the direction of the Park and Recreation Department of the City of Middletown. It was turned over two years ago by the Board of Education. There has been a playground and a play area at City School Field for more than fifty-two years. Prior to the formation of this committee, the P & R Department had two Councilmanic members. We were told at a meeting that a member of the commission would sit in on the committee. We were also informed that the Director of the P & R Department would be invited to sit down at a meeting with the committee and go over details. This has not been carried out. This has been requested but has not been carried out. I would just like to read this. First, before I do, I would like to mention the fact that Marv Hagel of Middlesex Community College has made a request of the P & R Department that MCC be allowed to carry out its track and field program at City School Field which has a fifth of a mile track. Middletown, in recent years, has seen many of its play areas vanish and I trust that the City School Field will not. Russell Street, Bridge Street, Green Street, Wadsworth, Hubbard School, have gone and now the oldest playground is in redevelopment.

No work has been carried out in the North End project. Goodyear Rubber Company and A. Brazos owned the area that is now City School Field. I know this because I was a resident of Hotchkiss Street for 35 years. In 1923, the City took over the 3 1/2 acres. The WPA assisted in doing the football field and bleachers. Since that time, the area has been used as a playground and play area for all as well as a field for football and track. All phases of sports were played and carried out here. Tennis courts are still at the field and have not been used in recent years. There is no reason why the area cannot be used for a fine playground, remain the same size as its present area. The biggest request here is to keep the field conception and use it for all-purpose play. If the City has \$44,000.00, is it for this field and this only, or is the money just for making this field into a play area? The final decision rests with the Common Council but we must think not only of today but of the future. I urge this committee to weigh all details of this project. You cannot cut up the area and then put it back to

the same size without a major cost factor. Regardless of the outcome of the project, the Park and Recreation Department will, as in the past, care for the area, staff it with programs. City School Field has had a great history in this community and can serve today's children and those of tomorrow.

Charlie Sousa - I live at 66 Plumb Road in Middletown. I'm also a taxpayer and what I was going to say was just about what Mr. O'Rourke said. I'd just like to add that I am very much involved in Midget Football and this is the only football field in town that we have to practice on. When it gets dark, we go to Pat Kidney Field and play in the outfield so we can practice under lights because it's too dark at this time of year to have practice. We were in a planning stage of getting lights donated to the city free of charge, installed for City School Field but we stopped our plans to find out what was going to happen. We, in midget football, would like to see this field maintained as a field with the track around it and bleachers, an athletic field for the youth of our community. We have playgrounds with swings all over the city but this is the only athletic field outside of Little League baseball fields that the City of Middletown has. Palmer Field is also over-used for games and youth soccer is coming up very strong in Middletown. This would be a good field for the youth soccer. They could share it with Community College for their track and field, our midget football program, the youth soccer; the lights wouldn't be any problem. Park and Rec would, I'm sure, do a great job maintaining it like they do the rest of the fields in the city and I see no reason to do away with a field. I can't imagine how you could possibly replace it anywhere in the city without spending a fantastic amount of money. It's there just for the fixing up and I think it would be a shame to do away with it. You'd be doing a great disservice to the youth of our community, especially the midget football and youth soccer programs because we have no place else to go.

Bud Woodcock - I live at 581 High Street. I'm also a taxpayer and I'm also involved in midget football. I, for one, can't see why this field should be changed over from what it's been for years for Middletown. Number one, all we ever hear - turn on your TV, turn on your radio, you read your newspaper, you've got youth involved, in what? Narcotics, breaking and entering; you name it, you've got it. These kids are supervised every night of the week by volunteers. It costs the city nothing. They're off the streets, the parents know where they are. They get a ride to the field, they get a ride home. They have the place to keep their mind working instead of being out on the streets, hanging around the parking lots, hanging around Main Street. Now, this committee feels that this field should be, as Bernie said, cut up and be done over into a playground which, if it ever was decided to go back to an athletic field, it would amount to a considerable amount of money. I would like to recommend that this field stay as it has been in past years.

Al Roberts - I live at 65 Oak Street and I'm also a taxpayer and I clearly agree with the gentlemen that have already spoken and I think that to do away with this field as an athletic field would be a crime and it certainly wouldn't enhance anything to have a playground here and have it cut up when we're so sorely in need of an athletic field. Also, I would like to see that the tennis court, which is in very run-down condition be renovated. Tennis in Middletown is something that has really caught on. More and more people are playing tennis and courts are sorely needed and I realize that the court here is small but it still is a tennis court, as such, and for a small amount of money, it could be renovated so that it could be used again. The field is not in that bad shape and the money which you said has been appropriated or is going to be appropriated, could be used to renovate the field as an athletic field and I cannot see why it should be cut up into another playground. I realize that the kids in Middletown need playgrounds but they also need a place to participate in sports and a field like this.

Joe Giannetti - I live on Boardman Lane and I'm also a taxpayer. Speaking as a parent, I'm assuming that if they do away with the field, this means the end of midget football and, as a concerned parent, being brought up in Middletown with the traditions of Middletown behind us, I feel that doing away with this field would mean doing away with midget football and I would be very concerned for my boys if I didn't have a chance to see them in organized sports and, as a parent and a taxpayer, I want to voice my opinion in the sense that I don't want the field done away with.

Chief Petty Officer John Harris - of the U.S. Coast Guard, Number 58 Military Road. As a military member of this community, it's quite gratifying to come in and be able to join an organization of midget football. This is the second year my son has played. I'll tell you, after twenty years in the Coast Guard and a year in Viet Nam, I came home after all this time away from my son and I got a chance to be with him which a lot of fathers, you know, take for granted who haven't been in my situation. Take this away, we'll take away the opportunity, the comradeship, fellowship and fair play that I've enjoyed watching. I've been able to get close to my son just through this program.

Ms. Virginia Peterson, Principal Stillman School - I wasn't planning on saying anything but perhaps I should represent a point of view for the children of the school. I would hope that you will consider the needs of the children for play space during school hours and I'm not saying by this, take away the play field that should be play space. I would also like you to consider the area around the building in your proposal. I think lighting is definitely needed on the field, a parking lot which will be at the main entrance. Also, consideration

to protect against vandalism in the school might be something to think about. You might also consider neighborhood area in your plans; play apparatus could be utilized by the area children as an extension of that field. I hope that you'll consider the whole school area in relationship to the field.

J. Salafia - We are going into thorough details for every possible way that it can be utilized. All those extras have been taken into consideration.

George? - Loveland Street. Neighbor of this community field here. Kids use playground equipment out here. Night after night, I have to yell at the kids not to smash it. If this is the case, the area should be lit, police-patrolled and so-on and so-forth because night after night, they're smashing this equipment out here.

Joe Misenti - I live on Long Hill Road. As a parent whose son is involved in midget football, I'm concerned about the possible elimination of the program and changing the field. I think it's a beautiful field and can serve the community well and I don't think you'll find a field like this around the area. I'm strongly opposed to changing it.

Question - Is it possible to be used as an athletic field or does it have to be used for some other purpose?

J. Salafia - The funding is for a neighborhood park and recreation area. It means that the money can only be spent for that purpose or for a neighborhood park and recreation area.

J. Salafia - The present area is not utilized to its fullest.

B. O'Rourke - It appears to everybody that the chair should not make statements that the facility is not used because the facility has been used since the facility has been available to the City of Middletown. Records of the Board of Education will show that the late Adrian A. Johnson was a playground instructor and it will show that Waino Fillback, assisted in the programs and it will also show in the City of Middletown records. As far as I know, during the time I came into the program, there have been supervised programs here at all times when the playground was open.

J. Salafia - Bernie, I don't know as I answered any other question,

but the question of money which, in the opening statement, I gave the background of what this committee was organized for by Mayor Gowin and what our authorization was and is; what happens after we make a report to the Mayor and Council, it is going to be up to them. We have no authority to make any decision on anything. All we are doing - we took a survey of the area, we've had petitions sent in to us. We are now about to put all this together in a report to the Mayor and it is going to be up to the Mayor to handle it from then on. We are not a decision-making committee.

Unidentified gentleman - I came in late but all I would like to say is St. Mary's School also uses this playground as well as the kids from Stillman during the daytime and they have a part-time athletic instructor who takes them out there and they play every day as long as the weather permits. I know this summer you had a program and the boys were clearing out the tennis courts and ever since Middletown High moved out, the whole thing seemed to have been abandoned. I don't see why we can't just straighten them out and use them because there are more kids going to Wesleyan courts and there's still not enough room there and there are a lot of kids that love to play tennis.

Someone giving their name but not recognizable) Fifth Avenue. I'm also a taxpayer. I've just retired from the military and I feel that, personally, I've heard everything stated here and I agree with. I also wonder if the policy-making body have kids that age to play midget football. Also, I often wonder, sometime, if we shouldn't overlook monies for the health and welfare of our children. That's about all I have to say.

Tony Matteredazzo - I live at 5 Ranger Avenue, Meriden? The question seems to be the use of the field itself as it presently exists. The question I propose here is if the field was improved, graded, trapped? and so on, put in tennis courts, fixed up - would this field truly be used more than what it is now? I believe that would be the case. You'd find exceptional use of the field if this field was put into proper condition that it should be in. Much of the youth in this city don't come to this field simply because of the fact that it isn't in the best of condition. If this money can be used to put it in condition, which would benefit the city, then I believe that's where it should be spent.

Fran Patnaude, Bartholomew Road. A question - for money received from the government, there've got to be guidelines. Can you explain to me what guidelines as far as park and recreation that the government set forth for use of this money? Now, how did they set them up to what you could spend it for and what you couldn't?

J. Salafia - I'll ask Mr. Sparks to explain that to you if he can.

D. Sparks - I don't think we have any, no absolute terms. The basis of the proposal to the Department of Housing and Urban Development was that the area is lacking in neighborhood recreational facilities and it was on this basis that the proposal was approved.

F. Patnaude - That doesn't quite answer my question because I think that when you receive money from the government, they tell you what you can do with it.

J. Salafia - I can answer that. The funding is for a neighborhood park and recreation area. That's it!

B. Woodcock - I don't believe that when you started, opened this meeting up, that this was explained in detail as it should have been to everybody in this room in regards to one specific question. The \$44,000.00 grant from the Federal government was given to the city to put into a recreation area in the neighborhood. Seeing as how there's no debate, I'd like to go on record as asking the question, "Was this \$44,000.00 given by the government to the City of Middletown to sink into this specific spot or is this \$44,000.00 for this immediate area which covers a great deal of space?"

J. Salafia - Bud, when I made my opening statement, I specified that the \$44,000.00 has been appropriated to survey City School Field for a neighborhood park and recreation area. I also stated that we, as a committee, do not have the final word for this. We are here to take input as far as this public hearing; we've had surveys here; we've had meeting after meeting; we've talked to different people; we are now about to prepare a report that is going to be submitted to the Mayor and the Council. They are the only ones that can do anything with the funds and make decisions.

B. Woodcock - I understand that. My only question was - Was the \$44,000.00 from the Federal government specified for City School Field?

J. Salafia - I said that, Bud.

B. Woodcock - All right, that's what I want to know.

J. Kane, Committee Member - Mr. Chairman, may I speak briefly? I would like to say, just to reiterate what Jesse said, to clarify a few things here so there aren't so many hard feelings. Everybody likes midget football in the room, I can see that. (the proposal) is for City School Field, for a park and recreation area. This committee is held to discussion of park and recreation, it's not for midget football

field, it's not for tennis courts, it's specifield only, the words before me, that Jesse very readily said, for park and recreation. We took a survey; many of the people around here, including the new tenants of this area. This is what we are concerned with. We're not concerned with the Westfield area, where I live, or where some of you live that have spoken. It's a neighborhood park and recreation area; this particular area, \$44,000.00. And we're trying to spend this money as well as we can for this area and also, if possible, for the City of Middletown. We're not going to put sandlots and slides where the athletic field is. We're talking to consultants; we're taking their suggestions; we're going to bring in more consultants. We realize the long legacy that City School Athletic Field has had. We can't bring that back but we want to preserve part of that perhaps, but also, we are dedicated to have a park area here for the kids, the tots, and this has to be part of it. Now, on the other end of the fence, you people have said that it's been used in the last few years. However, the tennis courts have not been used in quite a few years, you'll have to admit that. The track that Middlesex Community College and Marv Hagel wants has not been used. What I'm saying, we're all in the same boat; we're trying to get this thing going but we only have \$44,000.00 to work with. I don't mean to be long-winded but one of the consultants said this may be an initial expenditure that we will get from HUD. If we spend this money wisely, and we expect your suggestions as well as the committee's and the Common Council's, if we spend this money wisely (this \$44,000.00), we may be able to get more. I hope that clarifies a few points.

Frank Cuida - I'm a member of the Park and Recreation Committee. I have just heard of spending a grant of forty some odd thousand dollars, to establish a recreation, or call it what you may, for the neighborhood. I guess I'd like to reiterate that, as far as the Park and Recreation Committee is concerned, our funds are limited and no snowball's chance in hell if you would try to duplicate that field for over seven hundred some thousand dollars. So, we're comparing seven hundred some thousand dollars to forty-four some odd thousand dollars and I'm sure that money could be put to good use and we could establish activities on that field if it's for youngsters in the general area without destroying the field.

J. Lombardo -(Committee Member) I just want to say, as Chairman of the Park and Recreation Commission, a lot of times I'm in trouble because they call me a troublemaker. First of all, I want to say, I'm so glad to see this turnout because I've been to public hearings where there's only one member, we have a committee of seventeen and only one comes to a public hearing. This is fine, I love this. I also want to say that I was put on this committee; Mayor Gowin put me on this committee because I am chairman of the Park and Recreation Commission. Now, I'm not against \$44,000.00; I love money too, but like my other commissioner who just made a statement that you could use the \$44,000.00 without even

touching the field or the track. Come hell or high water, to touch that field and we're going to have midget football and soccer, especially the soccer. Youngsters that are growing up; we already have a program in the Park and Recreation. We even have them practice at night at Pat Kidney Field. That's why Mayor Sbona put me on the Park and Recreation five years ago, to see that there was plenty of recreation, and good recreation, because by God, I've always maintained that you keep a youngster in sports and you keep him the hell out of courts.

We also brought up a statement here that we can revise the tennis court for about \$8,000.00 and I'm pretty sure that our Director knows what the hell he's talking about. There's nothing wrong with the tennis courts; it was just abandoned but it's got good foundation; what we need is the blacktop on it and we have our Park Deputy that can talk about the tennis court. Dan, I'd like to have you make a statement on that tennis court.

Well, I'm Dan Pillarella of 115 Grove. The only thing I can say is this. We've done 85% of the tennis courts up at MCC outside of blacktop. We put up the fence; we put up the markers; we did - and I really think that this place can be fixed up with a little cooperation from Public Works.

J. Lombardo - One more question before I close, Jesse. I just want to say that I hope this committee will take this group into consideration and realize that these people know what they want, what's good for the kids and that's what I've always been after myself.

J. Salafia - I don't believe that any of us are against kids, Joe, and I don't intend to get into an argument with you.

J. Lombardo - We're not against the \$44,000.00 either Jesse.

J. Salafia - But you must remember that this committee has one function and one function only, and I hope you remember that. We are here to make a recommendation and a report to the Mayor. I hope you remember that in the future Joe.

J. Lombardo - A recommendation that we can save that field and put the \$44,000.00 around the field. I mentioned that before, too.

J. Salafia - You just write your recommendation and turn it into the committee and it will be taken into consideration.

Unidentified male voice - You talk about recommendations and all. I just want to be on record since it's going to be a recommendation, that I've been living here twenty-eight years around the corner. We've got guys here that moved out of the neighborhood and stuff like that. We all use the field all the time. If that field isn't being used by us, the kids in the neighborhood are using it and this has been going on for as long as I've lived here and it doesn't matter if they've got a recreation department function with the teachers and stuff here in the summertime, no matter what - as long as that field was available, someone went in there. Fine, soccer started and the midget football wasn't in there; we were trying to get in there for touch football or whatever. You know that field's been used around this area for years and it hasn't ever stopped being used.

J. Salafia - Ladies and gentlemen, please. I think we've heard what your feelings are on that but most of you are forgetting what I have said about what this committee is going to do and I don't think it's fair to the committee or to me, this constant debate back and forth. We called this meeting as a courtesy to the certain people on this committee and to others in the town. There was no legal requirement to have this meeting. All we're trying to do is to carry out the request of the Mayor and get as much input as we possible can from the neighborhood and to carry out to the best of our ability what the Mayor has charged us to do and that's it, period. This constant insinuation that this committee is going to tear up the field, is against children and children's recreation, is a lot of nonsense. I have children, I have a son, I have a grandson. There is no one in this town, no one who has worked as hard as I have for the good of the kids of this town and I'm a little perturbed at the insinuation that this committee is against kid's recreation and I wish you'd give us the courtesy now of carrying out the meeting as I requested to do in the beginning. Please!

B. O'Rourke - I think that I'm going to speak for everybody in this room, maybe I'm taking too great a liberty. I don't think anybody came here to chastise any member of the committee. I think we all appreciate what they're doing and I think if any statement is taken by any member of the committee that we're taking personal abuse of them is wrong. I think if we weren't interested in the youth of the community we wouldn't be here and you wouldn't be here. I think if you take that, we ask a question, we're not looking for any problems. I think the only question that should be answered that hasn't been answered is Fran Patnaude's and I'll give you the reason why. We're in a --- at the North End because we have a project in the North End that hasn't been started that was voted on and we were informed that the money could only be spent on certain things. Now, I think if there is an agreement with the city and there is a contract that says you've got \$44,000.00, what did you get it for? Then I think, I'm not questioning the committee. It must

be in the city records, it's public record. Why cannot a copy of that be made available to everybody and then we would know where we stand but I see nobody has a copy. Nobody. I'm not questioning the committee. I think that's the worst thing you can do is to think someone is here jumping on you. We're not. I think if there's a copy available, we would like a copy of it.

J. Salafia - Bernie, if you recall, I said that this committee was formed. We have \$44,000.00 for City School Field for a neighborhood park and recreation area. I said that three or four times tonight. There are no other guidelines except that money is supposed to be spent for this purpose.

B. O'Rourke - I'm not questioning your word but I think somewhere in the MDC - Mayor Sbona, this money was accepted. There has to be a contract. I'm not going to give you \$44,000.00 and say fix up your house or around your house. We've been through this at the North End. There must be some kind of an agreement. The North End, we were told, that you could not move the tennis court; you could not, with any of the money, do anything around the area. If there's a copy, and I --- and anybody wants to pick it up some place in the Town Hall. But I think that it would ease a lot of minds.

J. Salafia - Well, this is my answer to some of your question. I'll read it. This is the background. In January, 1973, the Department of Housing and Urban Development authorized a \$255,000.00, half Federal and half city, be spent to accomplish three tasks: the acquisition of the Hubbard Estate adjacent to Spencer School, the acquisition of additional land at Westfield Falls and the conversion of City School Field. The first objective was completed through negotiation. The second by condemnation and the third remains to be done and this is, people, what we're trying to do.

C. Sousa - I don't think anyone came here tonight to pick on the committee but we did come here very concerned about what we've been reading in the paper and it has something to do with what you just read, the word conversion. Now, we have a football field out there and a track. It needs fixing up but not conversion. The word conversion means from a football field to something else and this is what everybody's concerned about. We heard about the public hearing and we showed up to speak our views. I just hope that this word conversion doesn't get pushed around from public hearing to public hearing until there's a crowd of a different manner. We read the paper and we're concerned enough to show up at this hearing and we'll be looking for another hearing.

J. Salafia - Well, we all appreciate your coming. We all appreciate your concern but please try to remember what this committee is here for.

We did not have to call the public hearing. If we were not interested in having the townspeople learn of what was going on so that we could get additional input, we would not have called the public hearing because we were not obligated to call it. All we're obligated is to get a report in to the Mayor.

Unidentified - Did they give any type of an explanation for conversion? Number three, what did that number three say?

J. Salafia - The conversion of City School Field.

Unidentified - And that's it.

J. Salafia - No, that's not it. What we're trying to do is to find out, going to the letter of the law as far as HUD and the grant goes, is to try to convert this into a suitable park and recreation area for the neighborhood. It does not say that the field is going to be torn up. It does not say anything of that type. What is going to happen after we get the report again, is going to be entirely up to the Common Council and whoever is Mayor after next Tuesday.

Unidentified (C. Sousa) - Mr. Salafia, in light of what has just been said, I would like to add to my recommendation and I think it's probably everybody else's recommendation too, that if this money, if we are led to believe that this money can be spent for rehabilitation of City School Field, then our recommendation is to stand as they are. This is what we would like to see. If that word: conversion is going to throw a monkey wrench in, I think our recommendation would be to say we don't want the \$44,000.00 because it's going to cost us \$700,000.00 to replace this field.

J. Salafia - We will be making all the recommendations that have been given to us this evening in our report.

Unidentified - Could you make it possible that at the next meeting, that particular word be clarified completely - in other words, you have stated but it's not stipulating one way or the other what conversion means as far as the city is concerned. So, if that can be pinpointed, let's face it, like he was saying, it's well worth keeping it the way it is rather than getting (that State money), that Federal money.

J. Salafia - Again, it's going to have to be something that the Common Council and the Mayor is going to have to determine. I'm not a legal

expert but I think if there's any question of legality of it for the changing of any word, I think the City Attorney would have to take care of that.

B. Woodcock - Mr. Chairman, did I hear Commissioner Lombardo right when he said that the Park and Recreation Director, Bernie O'Rourke, he asked for Bernie O'Rourke, he asked for Bernie to be present at this committee's meetings and he was never asked as Park and Recreation Director of the City of Middletown? And if he was, I'd like to go on record and say that is kind of a slap in the face to Bernie, who, I think, and I think everybody in this room and throughout the city of Middletown, has never had a park and recreation director such as Bernie O'Rourke.

J. Salafia - Mr. Woodcock, there are new laws in town now that say that you have all facts and figures available to the public. There is no committee that I know of in the city of Middletown that, at any time, is not open to the public. As far as Bernie is concerned, if he wanted to come to that meeting, he could have come as a citizen, he could have come as a recreation director. He was not formally invited to it by letter but he was told that he could come at any time.

B. Woodcock - Very true, very true, Mr. Salafia. I am not doubting your word and I can be very frank and say I know you're getting uptight with me but as a taxpayer, as far as I'm concerned, that's too bad. I came here as a parent, as a taxpayer and as an official of midget football and this has nothing to do directly with midget football which you are trying to put a stigma on. But, all I asked was a simple question - if the committee is having a meeting, as a man of Bernie's calibre, Park and Recreation Director of the City of Middletown, it is a slap in the face to him for not being invited even though it is an open meeting as you call it. It's an open meeting to the city of Middletown, every resident, but the committee doesn't have the decency to ask their one and only Park and Recreation Director but the Park and Rec Commissioner, even though he's on the committee, suggested that the Park and Recreation Director be invited and nothing was said one way or the other. And all I asked was, did I hear right when Commissioner Lombardo made that statement? If I heard wrong, I'd like to be corrected but I don't think I can be corrected.

D. Sparks - He was told that there was an open invitation to Mr. O'Rourke at any time he wished.

B. O'Rourke - Jesse, if it could be me or Joe Doakes or anybody. Only thing I said when I stood up first tonight was that at a meeting of the Park and Rec Commission, at which time Dave Bengtson, who was Republican Councilmanic member, Buzzy Levin, and I'm almost sure Buzzy said it,

that I was going to be invited and I think if your memory is clear, you and I have been friends for over fifty years - doesn't mean nothing tonight, but if you and I remember, and I think you've got a good, clear memory, I asked you about it and you said that I was going to be invited.

J. Salafia - That's right, I did.

B. O'Rourke - Tonight, outside, you said that I was supposed to be invited and so-and-so mustn't not have given me a letter. Am I right or wrong?

J. Salafia - Yes.

B. O'Rourke - So, in other words, I would have come to the meeting if I was invited. Tonight is the first public meeting and that's the reason I'm here.

J. Salafia - Only as the public, Bernie.

B. O'Rourke - --- public hearing.

J. Salafia - The public hearing is tonight.

J. Salafia - All meetings are public, Bernie.

B. O'Rourke - But you said that you were going to invite me to the meeting and that's the reason I didn't go.

J. Salafia - Not through with it.

B. O'Rourke - I'm not here to argue with you or the committee and I know what you've done for the community, you don't have to tell me. I know what you've done. But this gets ridiculous. I hope you know how to spell my name and be sure you use the term argued.

J. Salafia - Yes, Frank.

F. Guida - Jesse, a question. Have any architectural proposals been presented to your committee for consideration at all?

J. Salafia - All we did is, we asked a few consultants to come in and have them give us their pitch, period, at no cost to the city whatsoever.

F. Guida - Would there be any objection on the part of the committee if the Park and Recreation submitted some suggestions or proposals on paper as to ???

J. Salafia - Absolutely not. As far as my personal feelings on it, absolutely not.

Same person - --- spend this money on ---

J. Salafia - We will be glad to include it in the report to the Mayor.

Same person - ---- do we have to get something like this?

J. Salafia - We still have got lots of time. We hope to get started in the spring with it. Anyone else? If not, thank you for coming. I appreciate your coming. We realize your concern but please don't go away thinking that this committee is going to destroy anything on you. I think I've tried to make it clear that we're just here as a committee to make a report to the Mayor with as much input as we possibly can. This is all this committee was required to do. Nothing is going to be done by this committee. We have no power whatsoever except to get as many facts to the Mayor and Council as possible.

B. O'Rourke - May I fire one last blast about - for everything. Would you be so kind as chairman of this committee to invite Mr. Spark's boss to the next meeting because evidently he must have all the details in this project.

J. Salafia - I'll be glad to Bernie.

B. O'Rourke - Thank you very much sir.

J. Lombardo - At the next public hearing.

J. Salafia - The next public meeting.

Unidentified (C. Sousa?) - Is this tape recording going to be submitted with our recommendations or is the committee going to make the recommendations?

J. Salafia - We are going to take the input of the tape.

J. Salafia - Thank you for coming.

Sal & Margaret

We, the undersigned residents and tax payers of Middletown, wish to have City School Field kept as a football and soccer field for the youth of our Community.

✓

Joanne Mangiameli
Maurice Casey
Stephen X. Caffy
Joseph Mangiameli
Frank A. Liscione
Paul H. Liscione
Mary Liscione
Josephine Liscione
Thomas Liscione
Norm Liscione
Stacy Liscione
Richard Liscione
Jane Liscione
Thomas Liscione
Chris Liscione
Shirley
Shirley Liscione
Joseph Liscione
Fred Liscione
Arline Liscione
Alfred Liscione
Sam Liscione
Bill Liscione

John W. Liscione
Jack Liscione
Maurice Liscione
Wm. Liscione
Alfred Liscione
Michael Liscione
Joseph P. Liscione
Eleanor A. Liscione
Paul Liscione
Carol Liscione
Anne Liscione
Sandra Liscione
Josephine Liscione
Lillian Liscione
M. Liscione
R. Liscione
Joan Liscione
Roberta Liscione
Jocelyne Liscione
155 SPRING ST.

We, the undersigned residents and tax payers of Middletown, wish to have City School Field kept as a football and soccer field for the youth of our Community.

John Kopke	25 FIR LANE	Middletown
Loretta Kopke	25 Fir Lane	Middletown
Luan J. Kopke	25 Fir Lane	Middletown Ct.
W. T. Chang Lee	15 FIR LANE	MIDDLETOWN
Kim Chapman	15 Fir Lane	Middletown
P. Blanco	417 Mile Lane	City
L. Mazzini	387 Mile Lane	Middletown
Kathleen Stuckland	376 Mile Lane	City
Paul Martingearge	377 Mile Lane	City
Angie Ferguson	340 mile lane	City
Wm. Harold Hadlock	315 mile Lane	City
Bob & Hannah Clark	407 Mile Lane	City
Robert & Phyllis Simon	470 Butternut	City

We, the undersigned residents and tax payers of Middletown, wish to have City School Field kept as a football and soccer field for the youth of our Community.

<u>Edward A. Winkal</u>	<u>418 Mile Lane</u>	<u>Middletown</u>
<u>John Dunn</u>	<u>428 Mile Rd</u>	<u>Middletown</u>
<u>Mrs. Thomas Shaw</u>	<u>431 mile Ln.</u>	<u>Middletown</u>
<u>A. Kavalaki</u>	<u>16 Birchwood Dr.</u>	<u>Middletown Middletown</u>
<u>Mrs. P. Paulak</u>	<u>44 Birchwood Dr.</u>	<u>Middletown Middletown</u>
<u>Mr. & Mrs. Edward Peck</u>	<u>55 Birchwood Dr.</u>	<u>Middletown</u>
<u>Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Miller</u>	<u>70 Birchwood Dr.</u>	<u>Middletown, Ct.</u>
<u>Mr. & Mrs. Paul C. Fecteau</u>	<u>85 Birchwood Dr.</u>	<u>Middletown</u>
<u>J. Chong</u>	<u>90 Birchwood Dr.</u>	<u>Middletown, Ct.</u>
<u>Michelle Ann J. Schepert</u>	<u>97 Birchwood Dr.</u>	<u>Middletown, Ct.</u>
<u>Jill A. Adams</u>	<u>149 Birchwood Dr.</u>	<u>Middletown, Ct.</u>
<u>Mrs. E. J. Balz</u>	<u>154 Birchwood Dr.</u>	<u>Middletown</u>
<u>John L. Nann</u>	<u>95 Hemlock Pl.</u>	<u>Middletown</u>
<u>James E. Sana</u>	<u>88 Hemlock Pl.</u>	<u>Middletown</u>
<u>Donel Potvin</u>	<u>60 Hemlock Place</u>	<u>Middletown, Conn.</u>
<u>Charles Laddis</u>	<u>39 Hemlock Pl.</u>	<u>Middletown</u>
<u>Maria Alkovic</u>	<u>30 Hemlock</u>	<u>Middletown</u>
<u>Cliff Hicock</u>	<u>30 Hemlock</u>	<u>Middletown</u>
<u>Sharon Palenta</u>	<u>27 Hemlock</u>	<u>Middletown</u>
<u>Tom Palenta</u>	<u>27 Hemlock</u>	<u>Middletown</u>
<u>Lucille Fava</u>	<u>15 Hemlock Pl.</u>	<u>Middletown</u>
<u>Louis Fava Jr.</u>	<u>15 Hemlock Pl.</u>	<u>Middletown</u>
<u>William Robert Boccia</u>	<u>35 Fir Lane</u>	<u>Middletown</u>

Sub D Mazzotta

We, the undersigned residents and tax payers of Middletown, wish to have City School Field kept as a football and soccer field for the youth of our Community.

Antonio Petrusek	25 Hotchkiss St	Middletown
Robert J. Simon	31 Concord St	Middletown
John P. Conner	22 Spring St	Middletown
John P. Trunell	24 Hotchkiss St	Middletown
Joseph P. King	25 Hotchkiss St	Middletown
John P. Balle	47 Perry St	Middletown
John P. Colino	54 Highland Dr	Middletown
John P. Marino	10 Scotland St	Middletown
John P. Marino	10 Scotland St	Middletown
John P. Marino	23 Hotchkiss St	Middletown
John P. Marino	Middletown St	Middletown
John P. Marino	47 Highland St	Middletown
John P. Marino	92 Bedford St	Middletown
Middletown Inter Soccer Club		Highland St
John P. Marino	101 Hotchkiss St	Middletown
John P. Marino	91 Main St	Middletown
John P. Marino	90 Spring St	Middletown
John P. Marino	277 Pine St	Middletown
John P. Marino	98 Scotland St	Middletown
John P. Marino	109 Zeller St	Middletown
MARIO VINCI	1A 90th St	Middletown
John P. Marino	260 1st St	Middletown
John P. Marino	17 Terry St	Middletown

R E S O L U T I O N

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIDDLETOWN:
That a Building, Site, and Development Committee be appointed
by the Mayor with the approval of the Common Council, to explore
uses of the City Field; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this Committee shall consist of
seven members, and shall submit a report and recommendation back
to the Common Council at the August, 1975 meeting.

P & A
C C
4/7/75

5. *Kuehn*
RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIDDLETOWN:

That the City School Field Committee shall be expanded by one member, making a total of eight members.

Passed & adopted 7/7/75

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIDDLETOWN:

That Section 8-34 of the Code of the City of Middletown, be waived for the installation of sidewalks at various locations, subject to approval of the Public Works Commission.



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

AREA OFFICE

999 ASYLUM AVENUE, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06105

AREA OFFICES
Boston, Massachusetts
Hartford, Connecticut
Manchester, New Hampshire

REGION I
REGIONAL OFFICE
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

July 2, 1975

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Honorable Lester M. Gowin
Mayor
City of Middletown
Municipal Building, DeKoven Drive
Middletown, Connecticut 06457

Dear Mayor Gowin:

Subject: Open Space Program
Project Nos. OSL-CT-01-26-1068, OSL-CT-01-26-1037

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of June 2, 1975 wherein it is indicated that the above Open Space Projects are approaching the completion stage.

Based on the above and on a review of our records, this Office has projected the following close-out dates:

Project No. OSL-CT-01-26-1068 - March 31, 1976
Project No. OSL-CT-01-26-1037 - December 31, 1975

In order for you to prepare for the close-out and in order for you to stay within the above schedule, we enclose two each of the following forms:

Form HUD-6670 - Financial Statement
Form HUD-6664 - Grantee's Certificate of Project Completion
Form HUD-259 - Requisition For Grant Payment With One Copy of HUD Handbook (1900.17)

A requisition for final payment should be submitted for each project. Where an audit is required, 10% of the total grant will be withheld from the final requisition pending completion and approval of the audit.

Sincerely,

Edwin Skelly
Edwin Skelly
Program Manager

Enclosures

*passed & adopted
11/6/72*

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FILING OF APPLICATION
FOR GRANT TO ACQUIRE AND DEVELOP OPEN-SPACE LAND

WHEREAS Title VII of the Housing Act of 1961, as amended, provides for the making of grants by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to States and local public bodies to assist them in the acquisition and development of permanent interests in land for open-space uses where such assistance is needed for carrying out a unified or officially coordinated program for the provision and development of open-space land as part of the comprehensively planned development of the urban area; and

WHEREAS the City of Middletown desires to acquire in fee simple certain lands known as the Kennedy tract, the Hubbard Estate and Westfield Falls Expansion and develop certain lands known as Zoar Pond, River Park, Westfield Falls Expansion and City School Field, which lands are to be held and used for permanent open-space for park and recreational use; and

WHEREAS Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the regulations of the Department of Housing and Urban Development effectuating that Title, provide that no person shall be discriminated against because of race, color, or national origin in the use of the land acquired and/or developed; and

WHEREAS it is recognized that the contract for Federal grant will impose certain obligations and responsibilities upon the Applicant and will require among other things (1) assurances that families and individuals displaced as a result of the open-space land project are offered decent, safe and sanitary housing, (2) compliance with Federal labor standards, and (3) compliance with Federal requirements relating to equal employment opportunity; and

WHEREAS the land known as Zoar Pond and proposed to be developed for open-space use was acquired with a Federal grant under Title VII of the Housing Act of 1961, as amended; and

WHEREAS it is estimated that the cost of acquiring the Kennedy tract, Hubbard land and Westfield Falls Expansion will be \$330,000; and

WHEREAS it is estimated that the cost of development of Zoar Pond, River Park, Westfield Falls Expansion and City School Field will be \$123,000;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIDDLETOWN:

1. That an application be made to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for a grant in an amount authorized by Title VII of the Housing Act of 1961, as amended, which amount is presently estimated to be \$250,000, and that the applicant will pay the balance of the cost from other funds available to it.

2. That the Mayor of the City of Middletown is hereby autho-

rized and directed to execute and to file such application with the Department of Housing and Urban Development, to provide additional information and to furnish such documents as may be required by said Department, to execute such contracts as are required by said Department, and to act as the authorized correspondent of the Applicant.

3. That the proposed acquisition and development is in accordance with plans for the allocation of land for open-space uses, and that, should said grant be made, the Applicant will acquire, develop, and retain said land for the use(s) designated in said application and approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

4. That the United States of America and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development be, and they hereby are, assured of full compliance by the Applicant with regulations of the Department of Housing and Urban Development effectuating Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

5. That the United States of America and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development be, and they hereby are, assured of full compliance by the Applicant with the Federal labor standards imposed under Title VII of the Housing Act of 1961, as amended.

Ord #14
1973

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIDDLETOWN:

SECTION I. For permanent public improvement the sum of \$255,000 is appropriated for the acquisition and development of open space land involving the Hubbard Estate, Westfield Falls and City School Field, to be known as the Hubbard Estate Project. Expenditures are also authorized for demolition, relocation, administrative costs, and together with all of the usual and customary expenses in connection therewith.

SECTION II. To meet said appropriation not more than \$255,000 of bonds of the City of Middletown shall be issued. The estimated life of said improvement is forty (40) years, and the total estimated cost of said improvement is \$255,000, \$127,500 of which is estimated to be defrayed from Federal grants.

SECTION III. The proposed issue is within any debt limit prescribed by law as shown by the following statement as of April 20, 1973:

DEBT STATEMENT
APRIL 20, 1973
CITY OF MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT

ANNUAL RECEIPTS FROM TAXATION

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1972

\$ 10,790,382.

BORROWING CAPACITY FOR EACH CLASS:

2-1/4 Times Base for General Purposes
4-1/2 Times Base for Schools
3-3/4 Times Base for Sewers
3-1/4 Times Base for Urban Renewal

24,278,359.
48,556,719.
40,463,932.
35,068,741.

MAXIMUM AGGREGATE BORROWING CAPACITY

7 Times Base

75,532,674.

INDEBTEDNESS:

BONDS AND NOTES:

GENERAL PURPOSES
SCHOOLS
SEWERS
URBAN RENEWAL

\$ 7,454,000.
9,512,000.
5,930,000.
615,000.

BONDS AUTHORIZED BUT NOT YET ISSUED:

SCHOOLS
SEWERS

500,000.
2,500,000.

\$ 26,511,000 26,511,000.

BALANCE OF BORROWING CAPACITY FOR EACH CLASS:

GENERAL PURPOSES
SCHOOLS
SEWERS
URBAN RENEWAL

\$ 16,824,359.
38,544,719.
32,033,932.
34,453,741.

BALANCE OF MAXIMUM AGGREGATE
BORROWING CAPACITY AVAILABLE

\$ 49,021,674.

◆ SECTION IV. The bonds shall be sold either all at one time or from time to time in series at public sale at not less than par and accrued interest, and advertisement of which shall be published at least seven (7) days before the date of sale in The Bond Buyer and a newspaper having a general circulation in the City of Middletown. The City Treasurer shall deliver the bonds and receive the proceeds thereof. Adinolfi, O'Brien & Hayes, P.C., Attorneys-at-Law, of Hartford, Connecticut, shall render an opinion approving the legality of such particular issue.

SECTION V. The principal of and interest on such bonds shall be paid from property taxes to the extent not paid from other funds available for the payment thereof, and the full faith and credit of the City are pledged to such payment.

SECTION VI. In anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of such bonds, the issue of temporary notes of the City from time to time in an amount not more than \$255,000 is hereby authorized. The Mayor and the Treasurer are hereby authorized to determine the amount, date, maturity, interest rate, form, and other details of such notes, and to sign, sell and deliver the same on behalf of the City.

SECTION VII. This Ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

*P & A
ccnty.
5-7-73*

Official Opposes Athletic Field Plan 6/23/75 H.C.

MIDDLETOWN — Park and Recreation Commission Chairman Joseph Lombardo said Sunday he is opposed to turning the former athletic field for city schools on Hubbard Street into a neighborhood park, as suggested by the Middletown Development Commission (MDC). Federal Grant

Lombardo, who also is a member of a special committee to decide the best future use of the field, said a \$45,000 federal grant is available and the MDC proposes using the money to build a neighborhood park. William Keuhn, coordinator for the commission, suggested hiring of a consultant for the project.

Committee members inspected the field Thursday and, according to Lombardo, were impressed with the possibilities there. He said the field could be used for midgeet football, soccer, track meets and lacrosse. The committee will meet Tuesday night to discuss the field and its future use.

Cinder Track

Lombardo also said a cinder track at the field was one of the best in the area and he thought it couldn't be replaced for more than \$100,000. Two tennis courts at the field could be put in service with very little expenditure by the park department, he said, and with the present popularity of this

sport the courts would fill a need in the city.

He also said that immediately adjacent to the tennis courts there was sufficient area on the field to implement a neighborhood park. He believes he said, that this could be done by the Park and Recreation Department without the services of a consultant.

Petition

Lombardo also said the Park and Recreation Commission has one petition opposing the use of the field as a neighborhood park and a second one was being circulated in the neighborhood adjacent to the field. Both, he said, would be turned over to the Middletown Develop-

ment Commission.

The field formerly was owned by the new defunct Middletown City School district, which used it for football and track. The field was turned over to the City of Middletown several years ago.

CONN.) PRESS, WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 13, 1975

1 Neighborhood Survey Favors Family Park

By JOHN BROOKLIER

If residents of a five-block area adjacent to the City School Field on Loveland Street had their way, the grass field there would be turned into a family lot facility.

The tot-lot facility, complete with sandboxes, swings, slides and benches, ranked first in the field survey, which solicited recommendations from 200 homes in a five-block area near the facility.

On that very question, about half of the 120 homes who responded to the survey said they were in favor of an open play field, provided it didn't limit or endanger the activities of the younger children there.

Sparks added another stipulation is that many persons raised questions over possible noise and parking problems in the area.

The survey work was conducted by three youths on loan from Youth Services. It included the area from College to Warwick Streets and High to Main Streets.

Ranking next, Sparks said, were improved tennis courts, better playground for older children and a basketball facility. Shuffleboard, horseshoe pits and an increased play area for Stillman School drew scattered support, he said.

The need for the survey was prompted by a differing of opinion on the field's future use. MDC officials favor conversion into a neighborhood park, while Park and Recreation leaders advocate leaving it in its present form for use in softball, football and soccer.

Salafia said the eight-member committee will study the survey results and compile a report. A public hearing will follow and a final recommendation will be forwarded to the mayor's office.

The committee, which postponed last night's meeting for lack of a quorum, is expected to make a recommendation on the use of the field by the end of this month or the beginning of September.

Salafia said the committee was charged by the city to come up with the best possible use of the field. A federal grant totaling \$44,000 is available for the construction of a neighborhood park facility.

A second public hearing will then follow to answer any petitions or related questions, he said. A final report and recommendation should be available to the mayor and the Common Council in early October, he added.

Next Move

According to Salafia, the committee will meet at its next regularly scheduled session this Tuesday to discuss the

Fratern Order of Eagles No. 681 President Gerald

City School Field Committee Chairman Jesse Salafia said today his eight-member body took no official action on the survey results. Some members are still looking at the results, he said.

Salafia said the committee was charged by the city to come up with the best possible use of the field. A federal grant totaling \$44,000 is available for the construction of a neighborhood park facility.

A second public hearing will then follow to answer any petitions or related questions, he said. A final report and recommendation should be available to the mayor and the Common Council in early October, he added.

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City Field Use Survey Completed

A home-to-home survey to determine the best use of City School Field has been completed and will be compiled into a preliminary report for next week's committee meeting. Chairman Jesse Salafia said today.

The field survey, which solicited recommendations from 200 homes in a five-block area adjacent to Stillman School, polled residents on conversion to a park or recreational area.

The Municipal Development Committee favors conversion of the field area into a neighborhood park, complete with shrubbery, trees and picnic areas. Park and Recreation officials advocate leaving in its present form for use in softball, football and soccer.

Salafia said the eight-member committee will study the survey results and compile a report. A public hearing will follow and a final recommendation will be forwarded to the mayor's office.

The committee, which postponed last night's meeting for lack of a quorum, is expected to make a recommendation on the use of the field by the end of this month or the beginning of September.

Youth Survey

Three youths on loan from the Youth Services Department conducted the survey of the area from College to Warwick Streets and High to Main Streets. About 60 per cent of the 200 homes contacted responded to the questionnaire.

The one-page survey sought to assess the present and future needs of the neighborhood. Residents were asked to give reactions to the presence of a tot-lot playground, basketball courts, horseshoe pits, improved tennis courts and increased play area for Stillman School.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 13, 1975

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Residents favor tot play area at unused City School field

By CAROLYN CAPRIOGLIO

MIDDLETOWN — Residents in the neighborhood of City School Field, located adjacent to Stillman School, have shown a clear preference for the development of a "tot lot" play area in the unused field.

It would include such things as a wading pool, sand boxes, swings, slides and benches. This preference was discovered through a neighborhood survey recently completed.

"The most expressed need was for better facilities for the very young," reads, in part, a summary of the survey results compiled by city program writer David Sparks. His summation was presented to the City School Field Committee, who commissioned the study of neighborhood preferences, on Tuesday.

The survey was conducted over a three-day period. Nearly 200 households were contacted and over 100 interviews actually conducted. Sparks stated in the summary that those interviewed represent the thinking of over 350 persons.

The most heavily sampled areas were Oak Street and Traverse Square. The report notes that "particular strong support for tot-lot facilities came from residents of Traverse Square, where there is evidence of overcrowded and

Middletown

limited recreational facilities for small children."

The order of neighborhood preferences for future field use is as follows: tot lot playground, tennis courts, better playground for older children, basketball court, increased play area for Stillman School, horseshoe pits and shuffleboard.

Because petitions, containing an estimated 1,300 signatures, have been circulating around the city asking that the field be developed for team and spectator sports, a question was included in the neighborhood survey form that asked, "In your opinion, should open field play and organized sports such as soccer, football, lacrosse, track be continued or permitted?" Sparks said the question was put in as "concession to the petitions" and to fairly represent all points of view.

Of the neighborhood residents surveyed, 57 responded

to that question, 28 responded negatively and 25 had no opinion but Sparks emphasized that of the favorable responses, "less than half showed any strong opinion."

Some neighborhood residents who were against the use of the

field for team sports pointed out are unfeasible, we must stick with what we are authorized to do which is to put in a neighborhood park." Grant money is available from HUD to develop a neighborhood park but not for the construction of a playing field for the city.

He pointed out that the committee will have to determine how much square footage will be needed for each activity in order to determine the most efficient development of the field. The committee will look into the use of consultants to ascertain this information.

A public hearing will be held, probably in late September, at which time those with specific views on the development of the field can be heard.

The committee will meet again next week to vote on Sparks' analysis of the survey.

Committee Chairman Jesse Salafia suggested there might be a way to provide the tot lot play areas and open spaces for team sports by utilizing evening hours for group activities, thus leaving the day hours for use by the children, or by constructing the playground in such a manner that the area for young children will be safely separate. In reference to the large scale activities, he said, "If those things

Historical plaques are gift to residents

MIDDLETOWN — The Middletown Exchange Club has presented the city with two sets of historical plaques. One set was given to Middletown High School; the other is displayed on the Council Chamber walls in the Municipal Building.

Each set consists of copies of 28 American historical documents mounted on plaques. Some of the documents include: Thomas Jefferson's rough draft of the Declaration of Independence, George Washington's Farewell Address, Francis Scott Key's manuscript of the Star Spangled Banner and Abraham Lincoln's final copy of the Gettysburg Address.

Francis White, secretary of the Exchange Club, said the club is working with Sybil and Recreation Department.

Middletown

Paton, coordinator for the Middletown Bicentennial Committee, to help organize an open house for the public at the Council Chambers so people may be formally introduced to the historical exhibit.

Trip to seaport

MIDDLETOWN — Children from the city's playgrounds will be going to Mystic Seaport on Thursday. The bus will leave from the recreation center on Water Street at 9 a.m. This is the second trip this summer to the historic sea village which has been sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department.

Air quality job attracts only 2

MIDDLETOWN — Barbara Rowe, Emergency Employment Program director, stated Tuesday that thus far only two applications have been received by her office for the position of air pollution control officer.

Middletown, plagued by air pollution problems, has been without an officer for more than a month because the state of Connecticut withdrew its financial assistance for the position.

Funds through the federal

Middletown

Department but she added that no new information concerning the funding has been received. Applications for the position are being accepted on the verbal assurance from the CETA field representative that federal funds will be forthcoming.

8/13/75

Hearing Date

Set on City School Field

An Oct. 28 public hearing was set last night by members of the City School Field Study Committee to assess citizen reaction to various proposals for the play area, according to David Sparks, panel member.

Sparks said the 7:30 p.m. scheduled session at city hall will "let the people speak out" on the best possible uses for the field that is adjacent to Stillman School on Loveland Street.

The eight-member committee, which was appointed earlier in the summer to chart development for the field, plans to present an overview of the panel's work and the various proposals submitted.

Based on a \$44,000 federal grant, the Municipal Development Committee advocates conversion of the field into a neighborhood park, complete with shrubbery, trees and picnic areas.

Park and Recreation officials favor leaving the grass and track field in its present form for use in softball, football, soccer and other organized activities.

Summer Survey

A summer survey of some 200 homes near the field by and large favored the neighborhood park idea. But opponents of the plan have publicly gone on record as saying a public hearing will be the true test of community reaction.

Sparks, an assistant MDC official, said the committee began preparing an interim report for the Common Council on recommendations and proposals. The council would review the report and render a final decision, along with the mayor.

Meanwhile, Sparks noted that the four original consultants who presented plans for the park area would be invited back to see if any additional ideas have been formulated.

He stressed that the invitation to the consultants does in no way obligate the city to use their services. It would be a voluntary action on their part, he added.

Way Clear for Hearing On City School Field

The City School Field Committee last night incorporated the results of a recently completed City School Field survey into its records, thus clearing the path for future public hearings.

The survey, begun last month, was initiated by the city to determine neighborhood reaction to the possible uses of the Stillman School field. It was conducted by three youths on loan from Youth Services and spanned a five-block area adjacent to Loveland Street.

The survey's need was dictated by a divergence of opinion on the field's future use. Municipal Development Committee (MDC) officials favored conversion into a neighborhood park, while Park and Recreation persons advocated a hands off, no alteration policy.

The 200 households that were quizzed, however, opted for a family park area, complete with a "lot lot" of sandboxes, swings, slides and benches.

About half of those surveyed also said they were in favor of an open play field, provided it did not limit or endanger the activities of the younger persons there. Last night those recommendations moved into the archives of the City School Field Committee. In so doing, the committee neither accepted nor rejected the questionnaire's suggestions—it merely made them a matter of record.

The group did so over the objections of committee member Joseph Lombardo. "This survey doesn't prove all the people want a neighborhood park," Lombardo said. In fact, he added, he had received 20 phone calls after the committee's last meeting from persons who live near or adjacent to the field, but whom he was not contacted.

"Maybe they weren't here," Chairman Jesse Salafia said. They were, Lombardo charged, but were not reached. MDC Coordinator William Kuehn disagreed. "Every man was rung," he said.

to incorporate the survey into the committee's records. Lombardo voted against the measure, saying "don't forget we have a petition of 1,400 neighbors."

The petition to which he was referring requests that the field be left intact as a soccer, football and softball facility. It was signed by approximately 1,400 city residents and recently delivered to the committee. Nevertheless, the motion passed. Now that the

survey's out of the way, the committee can address itself to meeting with consultants to discuss improvements and bringing its findings before public hearings.

It is hoped that a report on the City School field can be completed by October. "What happens after we make the report," Salafia said, "is entirely up to the Mayor and Council. It'll be up to them to carry the ball a little farther."

ENING, OCTOBER 23, 1975

Hearing Changed

The site of Tuesday's scheduled public hearing on development of city school field has been changed from city hall to Stillman School, according to David Sparks, assistant municipal development coordinator.

Sparks said the 7:30 p.m. public session was moved from city hall because of space limitations at the municipal headquarters.

City residents are invited to express their views on the best possible use of the grass field adjacent to the Stillman School. Past proposals range from a neighborhood park to a recreation facility.

Members of the city appointed field study committee will be present at the Oct. 28 meeting to answer questions and present all proposals to the public, Sparks said.

Lombardo Disputes Park Survey

MIDDLETOWN — Parks and Recreation Chairman Joseph Lombardo Wednesday disputed the claim that neighbors of the City Schools Field area of the city want the field changed to a family park.

He pointed to a petition he recently presented to Mayor Lester M. Gowin with 1,400 signers urging the present usage of the field be retained.

Want Tot Park

However, Jesse Salafia, chairman of the special study committee reviewing the use of the field for the Municipal Development Committee (MDC) which has a \$44,000 grant for the field, said Wednesday a sur-

vey recently completed of the neighborhood showed strong support for a tot park in the area.

This is the first priority for most residents, the survey showed, Salafia said. Better tennis and basketball facilities then were given next priority.

Salafia said this survey showed residents of the area had mixed feelings about retaining the field in its present usage. He added the Lombardo petition dated back to last March and was

signed by residents from throughout the city.

The area has a large football field and bleachers and also a small playground in one corner of the field with tennis courts, now dilapidated, on a terrace overlooking the field.

Lombardo also maintains the neighbors of the area also circulated a petition seeking to retain the present field status.

Sentiment about the area is expected to develop at public hearings which Sala-

fia said the study committee plans for early September and October. He added the study group wants to present its final recommendation in October to MDC.

Lombardo, a member of the study committee, was unable to attend the Tuesday night meeting and was incensed Wednesday because he believes the group had brushed aside the petition he had circulated.

No Action

However, Salafia said the petition was discussed at the meeting. He added the committee decided to take no action on any matter until the latest survey findings can be studied.

Tot Park Favored

Salafia said there was no actual vote at Tuesday's meeting but those attending expressed strong sentiment for a tot park in the field area. They favored top priority for this plan.

The city has a \$44,000 federal grant to develop the field into a family park and Salafia said the city would lose the grant if the facility was not converted to that use.

Despite the possible loss of the grant Lombardo and other supporters want the field retained in its present status available for soccer and football and other games.

Lombardo also favors a playground facility there and a major overhaul of the tennis courts.

The neighborhood survey was undertaken by three youths on the city summer job program and presented to the Salafia committee by David Sparks, assistant municipal development coordinator.

School Field Panel Eyes Wrap Up

The City School Field Committee will meet Dec. 15 to wrap up recommendations to be included in a final report to the mayor and the common council on the fate of the facility, according to Chairman Jesse Salafia.

Salafia said each of the eight committee members will be asked to forward personal recommendations for inclusion in the report. That report is expected to be ready for mayoral review by the end of December, he said.

In addition to personal views on the development of the field, Salafia said a consulting firm will also be recommended. The professional element will allow for more varied uses of the Loveland Street site.

The study committee was formed during the summer to determine the best way to develop the grass field. Some city officials back a neighbor-

hood park concept, while park and recreation officials favor the developing the field for use in football and soccer.

In the interim, he said, the committee will visit site devel-

opments by two of the consulting firms in question to determine the choice for the city project. The city has a \$44,000 federal grant available for field use.

Many Like City Field As It Is

By JOHN BROOKLIER

A number of city residents last night voiced strong support for keeping city school field in its present form for organized recreational activities in a heated public hearing at Stillman School.

The 90-minute session, which was originally billed a public hearing and not a question-answer period, turned into a lively debate between members of the public forum and the City School Field Committee.

Most of the 30-40 residents called for refurbishing of the present football and track area, citing the small number of similar facilities in the city. The majority of speakers at the hearing were midget football parents.

"Come hell or high water, they (the committee) are not going to touch that field," Committee Member Joseph Lombardo told the audience. Lombardo is also chairman of the park-recreation commission.

School Field Chairman Jesse Salafia characterized the accusations and tone of the hearing a "planned attack on this committee" and warned residents not to go away thinking "we are going to destroy the field."

City Field

(Continued from Page 1)

"There's no reason why the area can't be used for a fine playground," O'Rourke said. "But the field itself has to be kept intact for recreational needs."

Charles Sousa, director of the midget football program, said the field is the "only football area in town we can practice on." He added the football league is in the process of getting lights donated for night practices there.

The heated debate between the two sides erupted when questions about the \$44,000 were asked. Francis Patnaude, Bartholomew Road,

quizzed the committee on specific points of the federal grant.

Can the money be used to refurbish the existing field or does it have to be applied to a neighborhood park, he asked. Chairman Salafia said the money only provides for a "park and recreational area" and the interpretation of that phrase is the key to the field's future.

At one point during the hearing, Salafia said, "This constant insinuation that this committee is going to tear up the field and is against children is a lot of nonsense."

"We're not going to put sand lots in the middle of the football field," Salafia said after the close of the public session.

Public Hearing

The public hearing was called by the eight-member study committee to receive all aspects of community input into the best possible use of the three acre site adjacent to Stillman School.

Salafia said recommendations made during the hearing would be incorporated into a final report to be turned over to the mayor and the common council. He stressed throughout that the mayor and the council have the final say over the field's future.

Mayor Lester Gowin empaneled the study committee last June in response to a \$44,000 federal grant for a neighborhood recreation area. A survey of homes adjacent to the field during the summer favored a tot-lot and neighborhood park idea.

The field, which was taken over by the city in 1923, has a football area and a 15 mile track now available for use. Residents last night said it could also be used for soccer and tennis, if courts there were refurbished.

Park-Recreation Director Bernie O'Rourke, who admitted to being miffed over not being invited to any of the committee's bi-weekly meetings, said Middlesex Community College has expressed interest in using the track facility.

(Continued on Page 6)

Committee Member David Sparks, who also serves as Municipal Development Commission assistant coordinator, said the language of the grant doesn't spell doom for the recreational aspect of the area.

He said there is a definite possibility of including both a neighborhood park and recreational area at city field. Consultants are expected to present the committee with specific plans for the area shortly, he added.

Another public hearing is scheduled sometime in the future once a detailed plan for the field is formulated, Salafia said. Actual work on the field could begin as early as next spring, he added.

City School Field Panel Readies Initial Report

The City School Field Committee reviewed an interim report at its meeting last night that calls for a design that would encompass both "short and long-term projects providing a flexible basis for construction and funding options."

The three-page initial report also calls for engaging a consulting firm to "assist in formulating a master plan and design for the future development of the field." The field is located on Loveland Street, adjacent to Stillman School.

Members of the eight-member panel have long contended their report falls into the recommendation category. The final say on the 3½ acre site lies with the common council and the mayor.

The interim report is the committee's first formal recommendation to city officials as to the best way to spend a \$44,000 federal grant for the

refurbishing and redevelopment of the field.

A battle has shaped up over the future use of the field since the committee was established in early June. Municipal Development officials favor a neighborhood park, while Park and Recreation leaders want the field left intact.

Public Hearing

That controversy raged at a recent public hearing in which parents of midget football players contended the field was one of the few practice fields available. Park and Recreation officials have long taken that stand.

But city officials cite a neighborhood survey of the field area in which residents expressed the need for neighborhood play facilities for children, redevelopment of tennis courts and basketball courts and activities for older children.

In any event, MDC officials said at the recent public hear-

ing that the development of the field into a neighborhood park plan would not necessarily require the elimination of the playing field.

The non-specific language of the interim report suggests that the committee is leaving itself open so as to possibly accommodate both sides.

By providing a "flexible basis," this would "allow for an orderly and progressive development of the entire site and for future grant applications to HUD."

The report also recommends that an early decision be made as to a consultant selection so actual construction and development can get underway in spring or summer.

Final Report

A comprehensive report is anticipated before the end of the year, the report states. This final report would reportedly aid the council and the mayor in making final decisions as to the future of the field.



October 2, 1975

planners
landscape architects
civil engineers
avon park north
avon, conn. 06001
203-678-1160

523-0412 -

David B. Sparks
Assistant to the Mayor
Municipal Building
Middletown CT 06457

Dear Mr. Sparks:

I'd like to thank you and the members of the City School Field Committee for providing the opportunity last Tuesday for our firm to present its qualifications, services and ideas toward the ultimate use potentials of City School Field.

CR 3 Inc. is proud to be considered by your Committee for selection as a possible consultant and is willing to provide any additional help or advice to guide you in the realization of your goals.

I would like to reiterate a couple of items we presented to you that evening. First of all, we feel the potential uses of the park envisioned by you to be both exciting and challenging and secondly that CR 3 would provide the services necessary to produce: 1] a Master Plan document for the entire park to serve as a guide for future funding and development and 2] the contract documents and supervision sufficient to construct those portions of the Park for the amount of money allocated for construction per the HUD grant (\$40,000.00). The above services would be provided within the limits of money indicated by you for use as fees (\$4,000.00).

We look forward to the possibility of working with your committee, the community and the Town of Middletown on this significant project.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey A. Gebrian

JAG:d
charles a. currier
theodore m. randmetz
jeffrey a. gebrian
robert c. stevens

November 12, 1975

Mr. David B. Sparks
Assistant to the Mayor
Municipal Building
Middletown, Conn. 06457

Re: City School Field
Middletown, Conn.

Dear Mr. Sparks:

We are pleased to submit the following outline of planning and design services for the development of City School Field.

CR 3, Inc. has provided comprehensive services in Planning and Landscape Architecture for more than 25 years. Our planning process sets forth a philosophy and approach which we employ on all projects regardless of size and scope. This process encourages the user (community) to participate in the planning from the beginning to the project's completion.

We feel that the planning process is one in which professionals guide the desires of the community toward the best solution fitting its needs.

1. The community can best define its needs and concerns.
2. It can best define alternate solutions.
3. The community can best decide which of several possible solutions is the most acceptable combination of pragmatic concerns and imaginations.

CR 3, Inc. as consultants are, however, more skilled in making the planning process three dimensional.

Two very important elements of this planning process, namely the City School Field Committee and the completed community survey, will serve as vital components of this process.

In summary, we feel that the association of CR 3, Inc., the City School Field Committee and the user community can bring together an effective combination of imagination, technical competence and management capabilities to produce a harmonious development of this valuable resource.

We would be pleased to have the opportunity to discuss further with you the ways in which we might contribute to the success of your project.

Sincerely,


Jeffrey A. Gebrian

JAG/aes

enc.

OUTLINE OF SERVICES
CITY SCHOOL FIELD
MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT

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INTRODUCTION

It is proposed that a two phase planning operation be established to effect a total plan for City School Field.

Phase I would include the analysis both of the site and the uses desired by the community, the development of a program and the development of a conceptual or master plan. The master plan will serve several purposes including: a guide for the development of the specific phases, for public relations, communication with various groups and individuals and submission to potential funding agencies.

Phase II would include the preparation of the necessary construction documents to implement those portions of the plan within the limits of available funds as understood by us (\$40,000.00) and construction supervision.

PHASE I - MASTER PLAN

A. Site Analysis - an inventory of all physical features of the site and peripheral areas.

1. Analysis of:

- a. Functional uses existing adjacent to the site.
- b. Functional uses relative to anticipated development adjacent to the site.
- c. Visual and aesthetic characteristics of the immediate environment.
- d. Circulation: pedestrian and vehicular.

2. Conclusions: determine physical parameters, restrictions, views, etc.

B. Use Analysis - a study of the various uses and items desired by the community to be included in the project as well as those that may be generated by the Study Team.

1. Analysis of:

- a. Community survey.
- b. Compatability of each use.
- c. Feasibility of each use, i.e: cost, maintenance, durability, vandalism, safety, etc.

2. Conclusions: establish list of acceptable uses.

C. Program Development - the information generated in this part of the planning process is the basis from which alternate solutions are developed.

1. Establish priority listing of each item.
2. Establish extent of each item.

3. Establish design direction.
 4. Conclusions: accomplished collaboratively through meetings with City School Field Committee and other decision making officials of the Town in a free exchange of thoughts as to such uses.
- D. Concept and Vocabulary - develop conceptual directions and possible alternatives.
1. Prepare concept plans for potential directions showing ultimate desirability.
 2. Design vocabulary - lights, benches, character of spaces, etc.
 3. Discussion of basic methods of approach.
 4. Conclusions; determine preferred solution and theme.
- E. Master Plan - the product of the collective analysis, recommendations and concepts developed throughout the planning effort.
1. Master plan of City School Field showing recommended configuration.
 2. Recommended procedure concerning implementation, phasing, etc.
 3. Recommendations for harmonious relationships to surrounding land uses.
 4. Estimated cost of the complete development based on recommended phasing.
- F. Material to be furnished by CR 3, Inc.
1. One rendered copy of Master Plan(s) at an appropriate scale.
 2. Four (4) black and white copies of same.
 3. Fifteen (15) copies of supportive text.

PHASE II - CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS

A. Scope of Services

1. Provide contract documents for construction of those portions of City School Field within limits of available funds (\$40,000.00), following the intent of the Master Plan. Services to include construction drawings and specifications.
 - a. Layout Plan denoting detailed dimensions.
 - b. Grading Plan with both existing and proposed contours.
 - c. Planting Plan specifying plant locations, types and sizes.
 - d. Utility Plan for storm drainage and lighting and water supply.
 - e. Construction details for all work.
 - f. Enlargements of any critical areas necessary to clarify construction intent.
 - g. Construction Specifications.
 - h. Final Cost estimates.
2. Attendance at meetings as necessary for the orderly progress of the work.
3. Co-ordination of Town, State or other agency requirements for site development.
4. Assist in and analyze bidding.
5. Supervision of Construction.
 - a. During construction, two (2) inspection visits per week plus on-call when a problem arises.
 - b. Process shop drawings.
 - c. Process change orders.

TIME SCHEDULE AND COMPENSATION

PHASE I & II

We estimate the performance of the services as listed for both phases will fall within the limits of available monies allocated for such services (\$4,000.00) and the time necessary to perform same to consume from 3 - 4 months. Please note that this estimated cost of services and time frame are based on our perceptions of the project and its solution. If the ultimate scope of work as envisioned by you should increase or decrease, we would appreciate an opportunity to renegotiate a fee and time frame.

APPENDIX

SIMILAR PROJECTS

Robert Crown Park

United States Coast Guard Academy Foundation
New London, Connecticut

Design for an historical park overlooking the Thames River to commemorate the various Coast Guard organizations.

Windsor Green

Windsor, Connecticut

First phase of a three phase design development plan. This phase analyzed the existing physical features and activities and explored the use potentials of the Green.

Sycamore Hills Park

Avon, Connecticut

Master development plan of activities, including swimming, tennis, hiking, and picnicking for a major Town recreation center.

Crown Point Historic Park

Master plan for development of a park on a significant historic site on Lake Champlain.

Harper College Pond

S. U. N. Y. at Binghamton

Master plan for outdoor theatre and analysis of wind patterns and vegetative types as they affect man-made sounds.

GEORGE M. RAYMOND, A.I.P., A.I.A.
NATHANIEL J. PARISH, P.E., A.I.P.
SAMUEL W. PINE, A.I.P.

BERNARD J. BULLER, P.E., A.I.P.
EDITH LANDAU LITT, A.I.P.
WILLIAM R. LUCAS, A.I.P.
WILLIAM R. McGRATH, P.E.
KURT MOHR, A.I.P.
ROBERT L. PLAVNICK, A.I.P.
EDWARD J. RYBCZYK
HARVEY SCHWARTZ, A.I.P.
DANIEL SHUSTER, A.I.P.
STUART I. TURNER, A.I.P.
MICHAEL WEINER, A.I.P.

November 5, 1975

Mr. David G. Sparks, Program Writer
Office of the Mayor - Town Hall
Middletown, Connecticut 06457

Dear Dave:

Thank you for your letter of November 3rd informing us of the opportunity to make an additional presentation to the City School Field Committee. As we see no need to amend or further develop any concepts contained in our original presentation, we hope you can understand our feeling that an additional meeting would have little value.

At the previous meeting we tried to convey the point that we have had extensive experience working on similar projects and have the technical resources to do an excellent job for the Committee. One other point we made at the meeting and would like to stress once again is the concept of staging development at City School Field. Planning should not be limited to only immediate improvements, based on available funds, but also directed toward a comprehensive development plan when some time in the future additional funds might become available.

We are still very interested in working with the Committee on this challenging endeavor and we sincerely hope that our decision not to attend a second session will not place us in an unfavorable position.

We hope to hear from you soon.

Cordially,

RAYMOND, PARISH & PINE, INC.



C. James Gibbons

CJG:hmr

TO: CITY SCHOOL FIELD STUDY COMMITTEE
FROM: DAVID G. SPARKS
SUBJECT: SITES OR PROJECTS
DATE: DECEMBER 5, 1975

Following are sites or projects that can be viewed for C. E. Maguire and CR3:

1. C.E. MAGUIRE

Waterbury City Hall has models of new Scott Road Recreation Area being planned and developed by Maguire for City of Waterbury.
Construction not underway.

Boston - a couple of mini-parks. Al Gary will provide location if anyone is going up. Call him at 224-9141.

Additional Conn. projects may be provided by Maguire and will be forwarded to you.

2. CR3

A Regional District 17 Core and Senior High School (Exit 9) Higga-num - Little City Road - tot-lot, tennis court and ball field - now under construction.

U. S. Coast Guard - Robert Crown Memorial Park overlooking Thames River. (Example of integrated walks and paths and recreational facilities with trees and landscape - passive in nature.

Rocky Neck Park - Camp grounds.

Sycamore Hills, West Avon Road, Avon. Sycamore Hills Park is being planned by CR3 - only construction so far is development of swimming pool and surrounding area.

Jeffrey Gebrian can provide more information and would be willing to accompany if convenient. Phone at Office: 678-1160

Home: 523-0412

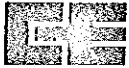
Please try to visit one of these sites if possible before the next meeting of the City School Field Study Committee to be held on Monday, December 15, 1975 in Room 206 of the Municipal Building.

I realize the time and travel factor may be a problem, but it would be appreciated. Take photos if you can or think it would be helpful to the panel members.

If I can help, feel free to call me. (Also, I'll try to visit one or more next week and will be available if you want to set up a time.)

CE Maguire, Inc.
Combustion Engineering, Inc.
1 Court Street
New Britain, Connecticut 06051

Tel. 203/224-9141
Cable: CEMI



TEC

Architects • Engineers • Planners

September 12, 1975

Mr. Dave Sparks
Municipal Building
Room 206
Middletown, Connecticut 06457

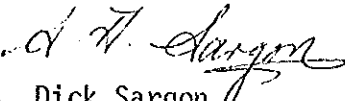
Dear Mr. Sparks:

With reference to your telephone conversation of Thursday, September 11, 1975, this is to confirm that the firm of CE Maguire, Inc. will be present for the City School Field Project interview on September 23, 1975 at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building.

Thank you for your invitation.

Very truly yours,

CE MAGUIRE, INC.


S. Dick Sargon
Director of Planning

SDS:csn

CE MAGUIRE, INC.

ENGINEERS • PLANNERS

31 CANAL STREET, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903 401/272-6000
60 FIRST AVENUE, WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 02154 617/890-0100
1 COURT STREET, NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT 06051 203/224-9141
93 ROXBURY STREET, KEENE, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03431 603/357-0111

PLEASE REPLY TO: 1 Court Street
New Britain, Connecticut 06051

November 5, 1975

Mr. David G. Sparks
Program Writer
City of Middletown
Municipal Development Committee
Municipal Building
Middletown, Connecticut 06457

Dear David:

Thank you for your letter of October 31, 1975 inviting us back for an additional presentation to the members of the City School Field Committee. We do feel that an additional presentation would have mutual advantages. This letter is a confirmation that we will be attending on the evening of November 18, 1975 for that purpose. Please confirm the place and time for that evening.

We will be calling on you shortly to request some additional information and visit the site.

Thank you again.

Very truly yours,

CE MAGUIRE, INC.

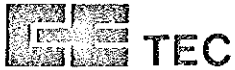


S. Dick Sargon
Director of Planning

SDS:csn

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1 Court Street
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Cable: CEMI



Architects • Engineers • Planners

December 5, 1975

Mr. David G. Sparks
Program Writer
City of Middletown
Municipal Development Committee
Municipal Building
Middletown, Connecticut 06457

Dear Dave:

Enclosed please find the additional information on our recreation activity involvement, as you have requested. Of special note, I would like to call to your attention the Waterbury Scott Road Park project. This project is presently out-to-bid and will be constructed in 1976 using community development funds. There is a model of sufficient detail on display in the City Hall in Waterbury.

We are presently involved in a very exciting natural recreation plan for development of an abandoned 100 acre farm in Ansonia, Connecticut. This project is to be funded by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, State Department of Environmental Protection and the City of Ansonia, under the Title X Program. We expect to complete design and begin construction in March, 1976 and complete construction in December, 1976.

I trust you will find this information to your satisfaction, and if there is a need for additional material, please contact me directly.

Very truly yours,

CE MAGUIRE, INC.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'AEG' or similar, written over the typed name.

Albert E. Gary, AIP
Senior Planner

AEG:csn
Enclosures

Project: Scott Road Neighborhood Park and Recreation Plan

Location: Waterbury, Connecticut

Client: City of Waterbury, Connecticut
Parks and Recreation Department

Duration: November, 1974 — 1975

This study resulted in the development of a year-round public recreational facility. Emphasis was placed on a total service concept including tennis courts, swimming pool, ball fields, hiking and bicycling trails for summer recreation and a ski area, ice skating pond, tobogganning and other winter activities. These activities were determined by an in-depth analysis of the area and its occupants to be serviced. A model of the park will be constructed.

The park will become a reality through implementation funds of the 1974 Community Development Act (U.S. HUD). An essential part of the neighborhood, the year-round park will not only enhance the area recreational opportunities, but allow safety and environmental concerns to be addressed in the neighborhood.

Project: Waterfront Recreational Development

Location: Middletown, Connecticut

Client: City of Middletown, Connecticut

Duration: 1973 – 74

This project, resulted in a comprehensive plan for over a mile and a half of city-owned land along the Connecticut River. The effort focused on the preservation of natural features integrated with man-made improvements that make optimum use of the recreational and aesthetic opportunities afforded by the river. The plan emphasized passive and active elements of waterfront recreational activities. The plan will become a reality through the successful implementation of its various elements through federal, local and private funds obtained as part of the planning effort.

Run Wild

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI)

Jay Beckwith is devoting his life to showing children, parents and teachers how to build their own playgrounds because the ones he used as a youth were unimaginative and sterile.

"I had a heck of a time in grammar school," Beckwith said. "The playgrounds were awkward and atrocious."

The stereotype layouts of asphalt, slides, sandboxes and swings failed to generate fun, he said, and they were unsafe.

Beckwith, 34, who has now designed and directed the building of more than 50 do-it-yourself playgrounds, said they should be a community effort reflecting the needs of the children of the school and neighborhood. And, he added, everyone should chip in and work.

He said he informs concerned groups on how they can get the material without spending a lot of money. He points out how government money is available for such projects, how old and discarded material can be used and how merchants can be urged to donate useful objects.

Such materials as scrap metal and old inner tubes are easily adaptable to playground construction, he said.

Before any work is started, he said, he meets with the children, their parents and school officials. And he said, "It's important to pick up the intuitiveness of the children."

"The kids may first want a leopree type of playground," he said, "but as they talk about it, their thoughts drift to something else, but the final product is usually just what they wanted."

And his playgrounds are safe, he said. No one has ever suffered a serious injury while using one, he added.

Beckwith has orchestrated do-it-yourself playgrounds for the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, San Francisco Unified School District, the child study center at San Francisco State University, Marin Child Care Center in Marin City and Fremont School in Salinas.

The projects are the responsibility of everyone, he said in interview on the release of his book, "Build



MEN'S
KNIT

Statement of Mary Klaaren

The consensus of the committee indicates that the general design for City School Field should retain the good features such as the field and, add carefully designed play facilities for children and recreational areas for older persons. In other words, try to incorporate as many varied facilities as possible in a small area without destroying the natural terrain and existing facilities.

12/15/75

Mr. Jesse Salafia, Chairman
City School Field Committee

Dear Mr. Salafia:

After much deliberation and thought on the future status of the city school field and taking into consideration our several committee meetings with consultants, the neighborhood questioners, our one public hearing and in casual conversation with children, the elderly and adults in the neighboring vicinity of the city school field, I strongly recommend that:

1. We retain the field and track in its present state.
2. Remove about 2/3 of the existing concrete bleacher foundations on the Northwest (right) side of the field. Level off the land in that bleacher area so this area can be used for a picnic area for the elderly.
3. Erect a canopy roof to provide shade.
4. Provide suitable benches and tables for this area. Possibly fireplaces.
5. On the Northwest (right) side of field retain and surface the existing tennis courts.
6. On the extreme end of property adjacent to the tennis courts (Church St. side) develop this area for childrens and tot playground.
7. Provide rest room facilities where previously existed (Hotchiss St. entrance).
8. Provide water fountains where previously existed (Hotchiss St. entrance).
9. A parking area though limited could be made available on the East Side of Hotchiss Street directly opposite the field and the Stillman School on Loveland Street. Since the field is in close proximity of a densely populated area within walking distance of the field parking would not be a problem.

I sincerely believe the city school field could be so developed to the satisfaction and pleasure of all our neighborhood citizens of all ages at a minimum cost and would enhance the area and provide the recreational and leisurely opportunities for all who so desire.

Martin J. Jasbet



CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
CONNECTICUT

PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
TELEPHONE 347-4671

December 15, 1975

24 Arnold Street
Middletown, Conn. 06457

City School Athletic Field Committee
Members of Common Council

I would like to list my recommendations for the City School Athletic Field, Hotchkiss Street, Middletown as follows:

1. To leave playing field and track intact. (All activities may be played on present field.)
2. Restore the two main tennis courts.
3. Use third tennis court for a Tot lot area.
4. Area on hill between tennis courts and bleachers be used for a picnic site.
5. Retain Stillman School grounds as play yard.
6. Keep bleachers and supports on bank.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joseph Lombardo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "L".

Joseph Lombardo
CSF Committee Member